No. 34,827

Mexico Races To Tap Its International **Credit Line**

Weakening Peso Saps Investors' Confidence After Corporate Default

> By Lawrence Malkin and Alan Friedman International Herald Tribune

Alarmed at the prospect of renewed financial panic, Mexico announced Thursday that it would tap its emergency ioternational rescue package for the first time, while U.S. and Mexican officials sought to reassure international investors that the situation was under control.

The government in Mexico City said that it would begin activating the \$53 billion rescue package next week to redeem \$2 billion worth of its dollar-linked Treasury bonds. It did so even before completiog the formalities on the \$20 billioo U.S. portion of the global bailout.

U.S. officials in Washington acknowledged that the redemption offer was part of an effort to restore confidence in world fmancial markets.

Officials said, meanwhile, that the U.S. Treasury was making "good progress" in talks aimed at freeing up the \$20 billion American portion of the \$53 billion interoational rescue package. The other com-ponents include \$17.8 billion of funds from the International Monetary Fund and \$10 billion of loans from the world's leading central banks.

Robert Rubin, the U.S. Treasury secretary, was meeting his Mexican counterpart, Guillermo Ortiz, on Thursday in an effort to reach agreement on the details of the rescue plan, which was unveiled on Jan. 31 by President Bill Clinton.

"We are ecotinuing to make good progress with the Mexican authorities in working out the arrangements to implement the previously announced \$20 billion medium-term support package," a Treasury official said.

The decision by Mexico to draw on IMF and U.S. Treasury credit lines to redeem tesobonos. or dollar-linked Treasury boods, followed high-level consultations with U.S. government officials Wednesday night. These consultations came just hours after a default on \$19.5 million of payments oo commercial paper by Grupo Sidek SA, a private Mexican company.

The Sidek default — and the prospect of See PESO, Page 10

Dollar Falls, Stocks Rise

The dollar fell Thursday in what analysis said was a fundamental reassessment of the currency. Exposure to Mexico's financial crisis and the belief that the U.S. central bank will oot raise interest rates much further cootributed to the dollar's decline (Page 11). Meanwhile, the Dow-lones industrial average edged up at the final bell to give U.S. stocks their second record close in a row (Page 13).

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Themba Masuku, left, of Swaziland and Alain Juppé, of France, speaking at their news conference on development aid problems in Brussels on Thursday.

EU's Aid to Third World Suddenly in Question

By Tom Buerkle International Herald Tribune

BRUSSELS --- The European Unioo abruptly canceled a meeting with the 70 ACP nations of Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific oo Thursday after oegotiations to determine an aid package col-

lapsed.
The move underscored Europe's lessening interest in its poor former colonies while faced with more immediate security needs and ecocomic opportunities io Eastern Europe and the Mediterranean

The falling-out over aid also exposed a widening gap in the external priorities of the 15 EU member states. France, the traditional EU advocate for the so-called ACP countries, bas pushed strongly to at least increase aid to keep pace with infla-

tioo, but Britain has insisted oo slashing its contribution by one-third while Germany claims it can afford merely to keep spending steady in nominal terms.

Alain Juppe, the French foreign minis-ter, who called off the meeting rather than make what he considered an insultiog aid offer, said the uowillingness to keep up support for the Union's flagship foreign aid program posed a fundamental threat to efforts to develop a common

foreign policy. There is no more European Union if

we follow that logic," be said.

Mr. Juppe pledged to redouble efforts
to increase the EU aid offer by mid-April in order to sign a new trade and aid accord with the ACP countries in May. For the ACP group, which includes many of the globe's most-impoverished countries and which has seen aid from

the United States and other sources dry up, the failure to win a commitment from their biggest donor was a severe blow.

Everyone is talking about market reforms and democratizatioo," said Themba Masuku, the Swaziland economy minister who led the ACP bloc, "but just when we start to put in place a framework, we are left in the middle of the ocean without the resources to sup-port the process we've embarked on."

In effect, the poor couotries bave been downgraded by Europe in the face of competition closer to bome. The ACP countries received the lioo's share of EU foreign aid in the early 1980s, but that dropped to 40 percent in 1993 and EU leaders since have committed themselves to big increases for Eastern Europe and the Mediterranean.

The Union countries are just coming out of recession, and the budgets are going down to meet the deficit criteria for a single EU currency, said Hans-Friedrich von Plötz, state secretary for European affairs at Germany's Foreign

France, which bolds the rotating EU presidency and initially sought a sizable real increase in aid, pushed at an EU meeting Wednesday for a compromise of 13.3 billion European Currency Units (\$16.7 billion) for 1995 to 1999. That would be unchanged after inflatioo from the 10.9 billion Ecus spent in the previ-ous five years. Still, the French came up 1.5 billion Ecus short.

The biggest problem was Britain, which said it planned to slash its contri-bution to 1.2 billion Ecus from more

Yeltsin Backs Chechen War **But Admits** To Problems

In Parliament Speech, Russian Leader Seems Steady, Though Stolid

> By Steven Erlanger New York Times Service

MOSCOW - lo his first major speech since he ordered Russian troops into Chechnya, President Boris N. Yeltsin on Wednesday defended the iovasion before Parliament.

But he acknowledged that change in the military had gone too slowly and that the army leadership was "unprepared." That was wby, be said, there have been such beavy casualties and violatioos of human

rights among civilians. Still, Mr. Yeltsin named no names, dismissed oo commanders for their "failures, setbacks and mistakes in command" and said he would draw oo "rash" judgments. His aides said he would deliver another address about the military, perhaps io two months' time.

Nor, as many Western diplomats hoped, did Mr. Yeltsin make any offers of politi-cal oegotiations to the leaders of Chech-oya, where a 48-hour truce appears to be holding.

"The flames of an armed mutiny have not yet been put out in the Chechen repub-lic and Russian soldiers fulfill their duty in extremely difficult conditions." Mr. Yeltsin said, asking depoties to stand to "booor the memory of our dead fellow country-

In his second annual state of the natioo address, televised nationwide on Thursday morning, Mr. Yeltsin ran through Russia's many difficulties in a steady mocotooe. At a moment of quescons about his health and fondness for alcohol, Mr. Yeltsin, 64. strode deliberately but steadily to and from the Kremlin podium.

But there was little spontaneity in his bourlong address, and he rarely raised his cyes from his text. His speech, which was coolly received by deputies and uninter-rupted by any applause, had many exhor-tations but little new policy.

Despite his plummeting popularity, Mr. Yeltsin did commit himself to holding elections on time as mandated in the constitution, with parliameotary elections scheduled for this December and a presidential vote in June 1996.

But if Mr. Yeltsin's intentioo was to renew support for him in Parliament, the speech was no great success. It bad been written by a circle of liberal Yeltsin advisers but then edited by cooservatives, and the ambivalence was clear.

Mr. Yeltsin recommitted himself to moves to a market economy and lower inflation, because Russians and Western agencies like the International Monetary Fund "expect this from us," oot least as the price of a vital \$6.25 billion loan. But Mr. Yeltsin also promised more

See YELTSIN, Page 10

The Unbeatable Balladur? Suddenly, It's Not So Sure

By Joseph Fitchett International Herald Tribus

PARIS - For the first time, Prime Mioister Edouard Balladur's regal progress to the presidency bas started to seem less than inevitable.

Mr. Balladur remains the overwhelming favorite to win in the April and May elections. But in one of those moments that can seem to last forever in politics, his lead has suddenly started melting in the polls. That downturn is liable to accelerate after some mishaps that pointed to his potential

Mr. Balladur has positioned himself as a paternal figure, above the fray, but now cents instead of ignoring them. That would break the frozen political landscape that has been dominated by the assump-

NEWS ANALYSIS

tion that Mr. Balladur has an unbeatable The most intriguing possibility, French analysts said Thursday, is that the weakening of support for Mr. Balladur could revi-

talize the campaign of his main conservative rival, Jacques Chirac.

The leftist candidate, Liooel Jospin, faces the daunting problem of surmouoting the unpopular legacy of 14 years of

French voters can hope that he will be mainly Socialist governance. Although Mr. ning to be seen by some voters as lacking a contend with an unfavorable political cli-start. mate in which two-thirds of French voters describe themselves as conservative.

> The prime minister had been proceeding calmly to the natioo's top job, but then questions about his lock on the vote emerged suddenly as his campaign image turned out to have problems, exposing him to resentment about the French government in general.

Even though he has run the government for only two years, in that time be has often had to compromise with François Mitterrand, the Socialist president elected 14 years ago, and Mr. Balladur is now begin-

These doubts have been reinforced by a unquestioned integrity.

In the space of a few days, he caved in to

social tensions and highlighted his potential problems with young voters.

He failed to dispel questions about a substantial monthly salary he received be-

See FRANCE, Page 10

Iraq Is Restoring Mosques, But at What Cost to Shiites?

By John Lancaster Washington Past Service

KARBALA, Iraq - This ancient city near the Euphrates River seems a strange setting for a tourist boom. Its downtown was gutted during fight-

ing between government troops and Shiite Muslim rebels in 1991. Because of a ban on airline service to Iraq, foreign visitors must drive bere from Jordan or Iran. The journey can take days. Nooetheless, Karbala these days is en-

joying a modest influx of visitors from India, Lebanon, Pakistan, Syria, Yemen, even Canada. Mostly middle-aged or elderly people oo a once-in-a-lifetime jouroey, they arrive in grimy tour buses or overloaded passenger vehicles, putting up in Spartan botels for as little as 75 cents a

They are religious pilgrims. They come to pray beneath the dazzling gold-leaf domes and minarets of the Hussein and Abbas mosques, shrines to the Prophet Mohammed's two grandsoos and amoog the holiest sites in the branch of Islam Saddam Hussein's regime is eager to

and nearby An Najaf, offering them as evidence of its success in stamping out the remnants of the brief, bloody Shiite rebellion that followed the Gulf War.

Shiite Muslims, who also dominate in oeighboring Iran, constitute Iraq's largest religious group; Mr. Saddam is a Sunni Muslim, and most of his top lieutenants are Sunni or Christian.

But, as with everything in Iraq, the story is a bit more complicated than officialdom

Government-sponsored tours of Karba-la, which is 97 kilometers (60 miles) south-west of Baghdad, and Basra, which is 452 kilometers (280 miles) southeast, revealed nothing to contradict statements in Baghdad that Mr. Saddam's forces are largely in

But the appearance of calm has been achieved at enormous cost to Iraqi Shiites and their beritage, according to exiled Shiites and reports by UN human rights monitors in Iraqi itors in Iraq.

They accuse the government of deporting and even murdering Shiite elerics in a continuing quest to gain control of reli-

See IRAQ, Page 10

vision of how France could make a ocw

series of events that raised questions about Mr. Balladur's nerve and even his geoeral-

student demonstrators in an episode that recalled previous retreats in the face of

tween 1988 and 1993 from a company whose privatization he facilitated when in

AGENDA

House Votes to Curb Role in UN

WASHINGTON (AP) — Despite strong opposition from President Bill Clinton, the Republican-cootrolled House of Representatives overwhelmingly passed a bill Thursday that would cut back U.S. participation in United Nations peacekeeping and support early expansion of NATO.

A counterpart bill oow must be con-sidered in the Senate, where one has yet to be proposed. President Clinton has made it clear that he almost certainly would veto the measure if it passed the Senate in the form passed by the House.

A plan to slash foreign spending, Page 2.

The decision, announced Thursday

U.S. Opens Inquiry of Commerce Secretary

WASHINGTON (AP) - The Justice Department has opened a preliminary criminal investigation of Commerce Secretary Ronald H. Brown's personal financial dealings.

PAGE TWO Affirmative Action on Trial

THE AMERICAS 3 Presidents Loose on the Links

UN Says Afghan Chief to Quit

by Attorney Geoeral Jacet Reno, means the department bas found specif-ic and credible allegations that Mr. Brown may have committed a felony. Page 4. EUROPE

Italy Checks a Mafia Link INTERNATIONAL Israel Relaxes Border Policy

BUSINESS/FINANCE Page 11.

Page 10.

The Other Soutchi Leaves Pages 19. Editorial Page 6, 7. Sports Page 7. Crossword Page 19.

Women and Men DO Think Differently, Science Says

By Gina Kolata New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Using a powerful oew method for glimpsiog the brain in actioo, researchers have found the first definitive evidence that men and women use their brains differently.

The investigators, who were seeking the basis of reading disorders, asked what ar-eas of the brain were used by readers in the first step in the process of sounding out words. To their astonishment, they discov- of research looking for sexual differences The psychological studies could not prove

ered that men use a minute area in the left side of the brain while women use areas in women do better on certain tests, like those

Dr. Sally E. Shaywitz, a behavioral scientist at the Yale University School of Medicine who was a principal author of the study, said that as far as she knew, this was the first time that anyone had been able to demonstrate anything "functionally different" between the brains of men

The new findings follow on a rich body

measuring verbal speed, and that men do better on other tasks, like imagining what an object would look like if it were rotated.

Neurologists have found that women seem to recover better from strokes in the left hemisphere, where language abilities are thought to be situated. Autopsy studies have shown that male brains are more assymetrical than female brains.

But these previous studies were indirect.

the differences. The anatomical studies could not show what the actual effects of the brain differences were.

But the new study showed actual differences in the parts of the brain used when men and women were thinking, and com-

ing up with the same answers.

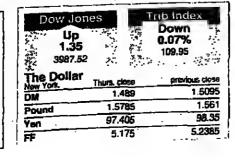
Dr. Shaywitz said the finding meant that "the brain is a lot more complicated than people envisioned." But it does oot say

See BRAIN, Page 10



GRAFS HAPPY RETURNS — Steffi Graf returning a shot to Martina Hingis in o Paris Open match Thursday. Graf won, 6-2, 6-3. Page 19.

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A War Over Preferences

Scholars Aim to Ax California's Programs

By B. Drummond Ayres Jr.

OS ANGELES - An effort by two San Francisco-area academics to eliminate affirmative-action programs in California has set nff a debate over civil rights that is rapidly spreading across the country and threatens to be one of the most divisive national dialogues in

The two professors, Glynn Custred and Thomas Wood, who describe themselves as "staunch conservatives," want the issue of affirmative action put to a popular vnte sometime in 1996. It is an approach that poll takers and political analysts say has the best chance yet of overturning affirmative action laws in

Mr. Custred, an anthropology professor at California State University in Hayward, said: "Affirmative action has been losing steam with the general public, and we think we've hit upon the sure way to finally reverse it and restore true color-blind fairness in the United

Tn get their proposal on the California ballot, Mr. Custred, Mr. Wood and their supporters will need to gather about a million signatures on petitions. That effort, which the two men say will begin in a matter of weeks, could cost upward of a million dollars. Few political experts doubt that they will

easily exceed both requirements. "I think the climate is now such that thev'll just blitz through," said Mervin Field, the dean of California poll takers who runs the Field Poll.

Recent polls show that the effort may well succeed, not just in California, but also in other states. It is an approach that already is injecting itself into the 1996 presidential race and one that is beginning to spark some ugly exchanges, increasingly between old friends and political allies, especially Democrats. Even some Democrats with impeccable lib-

eral credentials are beginning to break with their party's traditional hard-line support for affirmative action. They suggest that the sys-tem of extending special preferences based on such factors as race and sex has outlived its usefulness and should be abandoned nr changed so that preferences are extended only on the basis of economic need.

S for Republicans, many who once hesitated to publicly criticize affirmative action are now openly attacking it, sensing a change in the national political climate, particularly since the November 1994 elections.

Susan Estrich, a California law professor and veteran Democratic campaign strategist, sees political danger for anyone who continues to argue for maintaining affirmative-ac-

tion policies,
"For all its good intentions, affirmative action was never meant to be permanent, and now is truly the time to move on in some other approach," she said.

You can try to paint Republican oppotients as having been captured by the far right and the like, but that's not going to make the Democratic Party the majority party again. In fact, there's a bad potential for this issue to drive a wedge right through the Democratic Party, if it doesn't yield some.

Tn Mr. Custred and Mr. Wood, a former philosophy professor who now heads the California Association of Scholars, a Berkeley-

based group of conservative educators, affirmative action is a corruption of the civil rights laws passed in the 1960s.

"The specific goal of those laws was to prohibit discrimination by reason of color, race, gender, religion and national origin," Mr. Custred said. "The laws rightly encourage reaching out, but it's a perversion to say they permit the hiring of people by quota or the admission of students without regard to academic merit or the letting of contracts according to race-based formulas."

Federal, state and local governments, agencies and schools, and thousands of private companies and groups across the country rely on affirmative action as a tool of redress when hiring, promoting, awarding contracts or admitting students.

The proposed referendum that the professors hope to get on the California ballot next year reads:

Neither the state of California nor any of its political subdivisions or agents shall use race, sex, color, ethnicity or national origin as a criterion for either discriminating against, or granting preferential treatment to, any individual or group in the operation of the state's system of public employment, public education or public contracting."

R. Custred and Mr. Wood plan to first raise enough money and gather enough signatures to put the affirmative-action question on the ballot possibly during the March 1996 primary, but more likely during the November 1996 general election.

Then they plan to encourage ballot efforts in other states and, if their movement spreads, eventually pressure Congress to act.

If they succeed, next year's presidential hopefuls will have to adjust accordingly when they come looking for votes in California, the so-called must-win state. On the Democratic side, the adjustment will require special care, given the party's liberal history on civil rights.

The Custred-Wood proposal, which its authors call the California Civil Rights Initiative, has been labeled "Son of 187," a reference to Proposition 187, the immigrationcontrol measure that California voters passed overwhelmingly on Election Day 1994 but that the courts have mostly put on hold, citing concern over its constitutionality.

Recent opinion polls indicate that dissatisfactinn with affirmative action has grown to the point where about two of three Americans have serious doubts about the fairness of the concept, particularly when remedial devices like hiring quotas and contract set-asides are

The Republican landslide in last fall's elections was attributed in part to pent-up anger in white men, many of whom told poll takers that they were fed up with affirmative action,

whether mandated by law or voluntary.

"Count me among those angry men," Mr. Wood said. "I know the sting of affirmative action. I was once passed over for a teaching inb because, I was told privately, I was white and male. It didn't count that I was the most qualified. Well, we're going to put a stop to this. The worm has turned.

WARE of the polls, civil rights leaders fear the worst. And the worst may be that many of their A followers are beginning to drift away as affirmative action becomes more and

more controversial.



Mr. Custred, foreground, and Mr. Woods want affirmative action put to a vote.

For all its good intentions, affirmative action was never meant

to be permanent, and now is truly the time to move on to some other approach.'

Susan Estrich, a California law professor

rights advocates, the Reverend Jesse L. Jackson, already has traveled to California tn voice oppositing to the Custred-Wood proposal and to any other retreat on affirmative action. He called for a "register and resist" voter campaign and warned of "poisonous" setbacks for civil rights.

Then, noting that Governor Pete Wilson, a potential Republican presidential candidate next year, had offered some kind words for the Custred-Wood initiative, Mr. Jackson gave some indication of just bow sharp and contentious the coming debate on the issue

"Pete Wilson is liken unto George Wallace of Alabama," Mr. Jackson said. "He wants in stand in front of the schoolhouse door." In Washington and elsewhere on the na-tional pobitical scene, members of Congress and prospective 1996 presidential candidates

are scrambling for position, some eager to run with the issue, others not sure whether to plunge into the coming fracas or to flee beadlong from it.

Both President Bill Clinton, who has supported affirmative action, and the new Republican leaders on Capital Hill, most af whom have long held doubts about it, have One of the nation's leading black civil | assigned aides to study possible approaches | responsible.

and alternatives. Among suggested options: Replacing race-based and sex-based quotas with quotas based on economic need, as measured by income.

In the California capital, Sacramento, some Democratic legislators also have begun to study alternative approaches to affirmative action, with an eye toward taking the issue away from Republicans.

Rally Denounces Racist Fliers

About 200 students and faculty members at the University of California at Berkeley rallied Wednesday to denounce the distribution of fliers that attacked affirmative action by using derngatory and racist terms. The Asso-

ciated Press reported.

The fliers, placed in the mailboxes of 15 minority students at the Boalt Hall Law School, were discovered Saturday.

The university's chancellor, Chang-Lin

"Rejoice you crybaby niggers. It's affirmative-action month," the flier said in part. When I see you in class it bugs the hell out of me because you're taking the seat of someone

Tien, offered support to the students at the rally and promised to try to discover who was

Republicans Float Proposal to Slash Foreign Spending

WASHINGTON - A Senate Budget Committee draft report proposes terminating a wide range of U.S. peacekeeping, international lending and arms control programs, and phasing out foreign aid to Russia, other former Soviet republics, Ireland, Turkey, Greece and Cyprus over five years.

The two-page summary, pre-pared by committee aides, of-fers a window on Republican thinking that nne way in achieve a balanced budget by the turn of the century is through across-the-board reductions in U.S. involvement

Budget Committee aides emphasized that the document was still evolving and had not been approved by either the committee chairman, Pete V. Domenici, Republican of New Mexico, or other members. But the proposal has already been distributed to some officials at the State Department and the Agency for International Development, who said they took it seriously as a statement of Republican intentions.

"It really is no longer rheto-ric," an official said. "These are scrious proposals."

The document reflects the widespread view in the new Republican-controlled Congress that U.S. taxpayer dollars have been poorly spent on international adventures and ill-advised investments, a view that Clinton administration officials have denounced as isolatinnist.

The document proposes to cut nverall spending on international affairs by about \$3.5 billion a year from about \$21 billion a year at present.

It proposes to end support for "multilateral development banks," which it did not identify but which provide loans to developing countries. It also calls for halting voluntary U.S. payments to most United Nations programs and ending support for the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency and the Agency for International De-

Jesse Helms, Republican of North Carolina and chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said this week that he was developing a plan that would merge both of those agencies, as well as the U.S. Information Agency, into the State Department. That plan publican leadership and is reflected in the Budget Committee draft.

The document also targets casting programs, including

change programs and for the Overseas Private Investment By Eric Pianin
and Thomas W. Lippman
Corp., an agency that provides subsidized insurance to Americal Subsidized insurance to American Subsidized insurance subsidized in can corporations to make risky foreign investments.

The proposed broad assault on U.S. international activities is contrary to key components nf the Clinton administration's foreign policy: multilateral approaches to global problems, direct aid to former Communist countries, and the use of U.S. government mechanisms to stimulate free markets abroad.

The Republican leaders "are trying to come up with a bal-anced budget by the year 2002," a Republican aide said, "and they're going to have to do those kinds of things in foreign aid and elsewhere in order to

Senator Don Nickles, Re-publican of Oklahoma, a member of the Budget Committee, predicted that multilateral development banks would "come under a lot more scrutiny.' Also, he said, "you'll probably see some Russian aid tied to a reduction in their aggression in Chechnya.

Senator Patrick J. Leahy nf Vermont, the ranking Democrat on the Senate Appropriations subcommittee on foreign operations, said, "I think it's kind of early to say what's going of to be cut out and what's not."

While many of the proposals carry significant foreign policy implications, foreign aid spend-ing constitutes a small fraction of the overall budget. Republican leaders committed to reducing the deficit by the year 2002 will be forced to seek substantial reductions in entitlement programs and other domestic programs tn achieve

Senator J. James Exon, Democrat of Nebraska, the ranking Democrat on the Budget Committee, said the committee staff document suggests that Republicans have done far more in detailed long-term deficit reduction planning than they have acknowledged.

Secretary of State Warren M. Christopher, when asked at a Senate Budget Committee hearing about U.S. aid to former Soviet republics, said that aid to Russia was already slated to be reduced by \$100 million in the corrent year. Other newly independent states "snch as Ukraine and Kazakhstan deserve and urgently need our assistance," he said.

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The Republican proposal would also phase out aid to Greece, Turkey whose cooperation the administration is seeking on a variety of issues, and to Ireland, Mr. Clinton has used the lure of potenfor termination overseas broad-tial increases in U.S. contributions to an Irish development Voice of America and Radio fund as a bargaining chip to Marti. It calls for cutbacks in encourage peace negotiations in spending for international ex- Northern Ireland.

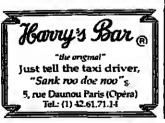
Democrats Get Help as House Kills Missile Defense System court press against the entire without outlining specific ways to achieve it. The bill would The House plans to vote nn the deployment of a system to authority on missile defense the bill Thursday. But its pros- defend the United States systems, gives a much lower pri-By Dana Priest Washington Post Service against missile attacks from After the vote, Republican place some restrictions on fipects for becoming law are

WASHINGTON — The House has voted to knock ont a symbolically important portion of a Republican defense bill by rejecting a provision to deploy a Star Wars'-like anti-missile defense system that Pentagon officials asserted was unnecessary and expensive.

On a 218-to-212 vote, the Democratic amendment to the House National Security Revitalizatinn Act passed late Wednesday with support from 24 Republicans, including leading deficit hawks.

The original provision was

cherished by former Cold Warriors who now head key defense committees, but it was roundly criticized by President Bill Clinton and Defense Secretary William J. Perry, who began a full-



leaders immediately tried to rein in the two dozen Republicans who crossed party lines in the first vote against one of the basic items in the Republican "Contract With America."

The bill is slipping away from you," warned Representa-tive Tuby Roth, Republican of Wisconsin. "You're going to end up with cotton candy.

The missile defense provision is part of a bill that calls generally for a more robust defense,

Fire on British Jetliner Forces Landing in Iran

TEHRAN — A British Airways jumbo jet with 405 passengers made an emergency landing in Tehran after a fire safe no its journey to Tokyn. broke out on board, an Iranian newspaper said Thursday.

The fire started in the hold of the Boeing 747 as it flew over Iran on its way from New Delhi to London early Wednesday, the daily Kayhan said. The pilot made an emergency landing at where the passengers and crew

nancing and participating in United Nations peacekeeping operations, but leave the president several ways to sidestep them. It also calls for extending membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization to several former East Bloc coun-

bleak because there is nn companion legislation in the Senate. But Senator Bob Dole of Kantroduced legislation to restrict peacekeeping operations that is similar to the provisions in the tries, but lacks a specific timeta-

That bill would have required South Carolina and a leading

sas, the majority leader, has in- a deployment plan to Congress ment" once such a system is within 60 days.

abroad "at the earliest practical date," and would have forced the defense secretary in submit

But the amendment, sponsored by Representative John McK. Spratt Jr., Democrat of

nrity to the kind of system favored by Republicans and instructs the Pentagon only to "develop options for deployfully tested.

that such a defense system should be ground-based rather than space-based.

French Try to Assuage Islanders Over Nuclear Cargo

TOKYO — Officials of a revealed. French company that reprocessed a nuclear waste shipment fnr Japan said here Thursday that the cargo of radioactive

The company was responding in concerns from several natinns and to protests by the environmental group Greenpeace, which asked Japan on Wednesday to prevent the shipment. It is expected to depart from the French port of Cherbourg be-Tebran-Mehrabad airpart, fare the end of February. Greenpeace contends that it would endanger countries along

the route, which has yet to be risk of an accident," be added tries, from the Philippines to

Twenty-eight blocks of reprocessed nuclear waste are in be transported within a 112-ton structure aboard a British ship material it is returning would be that bas been designed for the

Gabriel Coignaud, president of Cogerna Japan, an alfiliate of the French reprocessing com-pany Cogema, said, "We can solemnly affirm that the shipment poses no danger to people" in countries along the

"All possible precautions have been taken to prevent any

Cyprus ✓ **II** Czech Republic + .

in an interview.

The fears of certain countries "are totally irrational" because even if the ship caught fire or sank, be said, the risk of contamination for surrounding populations would be virtually

Greenpeace does not think so, warning that such shipments carry "enormous risks tn the envirnument and public health," and that an accident would result in sea and land contamination lasting "tens of thousands of years."

About 20 Pacific ocean coun-

the tiny island republic of Nauru, have expressed concern; some said the ship would be barred from their territorial wa-

announced 24 to 48 hours in advance, will not stray into any nation's territorial waters, although it could enter the exclusive economic zones that extend 320 kilometers (200 miles) from some countries' coastlines

The ship is double-hulled and will be tracked by satellite, the company said.

ACCESS NUMBERS COUNTRIES

The amendment also says Lufthansa to Test Special Credit Card

TRAVEL UPDATE

HAMBURG (AP) - Starting in March, Lufthansa passengers will be able to use a microchip credit card to book flights, assign themselves a seat, pay their fare and board the plane without

The Lufthansa Chip-Card, designed to cut down on the amount nf time a traveler spends in the airport and tn automate services that now require several workers and pieces of paper, will be issued next mnnth to 1,000 passengers in a test run. The passengers can use the cards on Lufthansa flights between

Frankfurt and Berlin, where machines will be available to register

their card numbers as they board the plane. Lufthansa plans to

issue the cards to all passengers starting in 1996. elgian air traffic controllers staged a two-hour strike Thursday. Cogema Japan said that the disrupting flights in the peak morning period, an airport spokes-ship, whose departure is to be woman said. The strike fullowed a similar stoppage Wednesday to protest what a spokesman for controllers described as inadequate pensions and poor working conditions.

> "Roll-on roll-off" passenger ferry services would be banned from European Uninn ports unless they agreed to a strict safety code under a plan proposed by the European Commission on

> Japan's Transport Ministry said it would approve a new All Nippott Airways route linking Osaka to Beijing via Dalian with a weekly round-trip flight starting March 26.

> > U.S. Virgin 1st

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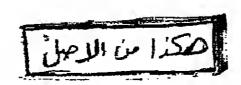
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THE AMERICAS

Fore! A Presidential Trio Wreaks Havoc on the Links

By John F. Harris

PALM SPRINGS, Califor-ia -- When President Bill Clinton and two of his Republican predecessors took to the links, not a soul at the Indian Wells Country Club was safe. With golf halls flyiog every which way, an outing that had been hilled as historic turned out to be downright harrowing.

"Fore!" hellowed former President Gerald R. Ford as his first drive veered into the

You could say that again. And indeed it was said — again and again, all day long, as they rounded the course with the comedian Bob Hope on Wednesday as part of the 36th annual Boh Hope Chrysler Classic—the celebrity part, of course, not the professional one.

They said it when Mr. Clinton sent a shot flying into a wealthy resident's back yard. And Norma Earley wished they had said it a little louder after a ball hit by former President George Bush bounced off a tree and clocked her hard on the bridge of the nose.

Mr. Bush came over to apologize. Ms. Earley, prostrate in the rough, assured him she was fine. So Mr. Bush pushed on while medics wiped off the hlood on Ms. Earley's face.

Later in the game, Mr. Bush hit another spectator, John C. Rynd, in the calf; he was not injured. Mr. Ford, to no one's surprise, claimed a casualty of his own, nicking the finger of Geraldine Grommesch and drawing blood.

So the day was not graceful in every respect, but it did provide a remarkable view of the myste-

By John Markoff

New York Times Service

RALEIGH, North Carolina

-After a search of more than

two years, a team of FBI agents

have captured a 31-year-old

computer expert accused of a

long crime spree that includes

the theft of thousands of data. files and at least 20,000 credit

card numbers from computer

The arrest on Wednesday of

Kevin D. Mitnick, one of the

most wanted computer crimi-

nals, followed a 24-hour stake-

out of a Raleigh apartment

oo the run from federal law en-

forcement officials since No-

vember 1992, Mr. Mitnick has

used his sophisticated skills

over the years to pry into many

of the nation's telephone and

cellular telephone networks and

vandalize government, corpo-

rate and university computer

Most recently, he had be-

"He was clearly the most

computer network.

A convicted computer felon

building here.

systems around the nation.

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· 22



President Bill Clinton, left, and Gerald R. Ford watching as a golf ball hit by Mr. Ford hit a cart instead of grass.

rious unifying effect of the pres- joshed about the erratic nature Carter, busy announcing anoth-

idency. Who knows what sort of uses Mr. Bush was secretly imagin-ing for his golf clubs as he rounded the course with the man who cut short his career. On the surface at least, everything was chummy.

They posed for smiling photographs with the famed golfer Arnoid Palmer. They gave each other "gimme" putts when their balls lay close to the hole. They

of their games.

It was hard to remember that Mr. Bush once sought re-election hy attacking Mr. Clinton's character, and Mr. Clinton that same year denied him victory in part by arguing Mr. Bush was a hard-hearted reactionary with no vision.

But why dwell on the past?

Mr. Bush, Mr. Clinton, Mr.

Wednesday, they were three
pals who all belong to the same
exclusive cluh. Only Jimmy

Mr. Bush, Mr. Clinton, Mr.

Ford and Mr. Hope to make up
a fivesome for the golf game
exclusive cluh. Only Jimmy

er peace mission to Haiti, was not around to enjoy the hrilliant sun that shone on one of the nation's most opulent settings.

There was another source of radiance — a list of celebrities that included the actor Clint Eastwood and a former foothall star, Lawrence Taylor. Joining

Mr. Clinton was the most garrulous of the group, waving score. often to the crowd and keeping up a running commentary on

Compared to the more re-served Mr. Ford and Mr. Bush, the effect was as if 48-year-old Mr. Clinton were the hrasb new member of a starchy country

Mr. Bush seemed a gauzy distant figure --- plainly still a vigorous man at 70 hut more se-

Commentator Setting Up 1996 Bid It was if his presidency had end-

WASHINGTON - Patrick J. Buchanan, the conservative ed 20 years ago rather than two. television commentator who challenged President George Bush in the 1992 Republican primaries, plans to take his first formal step toward another candidacy by filing his intentions It was Mr. Ford who looked thoroughly unchanged — still, at 81, the solid regular block of a guy who occupied the White House after Richard M. Nix-

formal step toward another candidacy by filing his intentions to form a presidential exploratory committee.

The Republican's entry into the 1996 campaign could result in sharp debate within the party over issues ranging from abortion and immigration to foreign trade and foreign policy. In a statement issued by his committee, Mr. Buchanan attacked President Bill Clinton's Mexico hailout plan as a "rip-off of the taxpayers" and cited his opposition to the North American Free Trade Agreement and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade as examples of what he would battle against.

(WP) on's resignation in the mid-And then there was Mr. Hope, whose first game of presidential golf was with Dwight D. Eisenhower. At age 91, he moved in slow motion as he walked from his cart toward the

Panel Passes Welfare Bill Bitterly

POLITICAL NOTES

WASHINGTON - A congressional subcommittee has approved sweeping legislation to overhaul the nation's welfare programs as Republicans and Democrats angrily accused

each other of perpetuating poverty.

The action was the first big step by the new Congress to pare back the social welfare programs established over 60

The welfare hill, a keystone of the Republican legislative agenda, was approved by the House Ways and Means sub-

agenda, was approved by the House ways and Means subcommittee on human resources by a party-line vote of 8 to 5.

The hill would consolidate several dozen programs, including Aid to Families With Dependent Children, and turn them
over to the states with lump sums of money, or block grants. It
would also cut off cash assistance to tens of thousands of poor
children with physical or mental disabilities.

The measure, which is likely to reach the House floor next

month, would outlaw the use of federal money for cash assistance to unmarried mothers under the age of 18.

Harold E. Ford, Democrat of Tennessee, touched off the partisan fireworks Wednesday when he denounced the bill as "mean-spirited and shortsighted." He said it punished "children for the mistakes of their parents." (NYT)

Committee Nears Gingrich Inquiry

WASHINGTON — As the speaker of the House, Newt Gingrich, denounced his Democratic critics, saying they had made spurious charges of misconduct against him, the ethics committee said it was close to agreeing on a procedure for investigating those accusations.

Members of the hipartisan panel said they had yet to make a critical decision in the inquiry; whether to hire an outside counsel to investigate the Georgia Republican's finances and

The head of the committee, Nancy L. Johnson, Republican of Connecticut, said members "discussed all procedural options and agreed on those we felt would enable us to move forward on a hipartisan basis."

She said the committee had so far held two amicable and

thorough discussions of Mr. Gingrich's case, something "that is no mean feat at this point."

The man Mr. Gingrich defeated in November, Ben Jones, has charged that a college course the speaker teaches is politically oriented and improperly financed with tax-exempt funds. He also has accused Mr. Gingrich of hreaking House rules by accepting a lucrative book contract with a publishing house owned by the media mogul Rupert Murdoch. (NYT)

Historians Fault Possible Nominee

WASHINGTON - Word that the White House is considering appointing a former Kansas governor as national archivist has prompted protests from historians and archivists who say he lacks the credentials needed for the joh.

They also complain that choosing John W. Carlin, who helped the 1992 Clinton campaign, could politicize the job. White House sources have said that Mr. Carlin was among the top choices to head the National Archives and Records Administration. (NYT)

Quote/Unquote

Mr. Buchanan on what he called Republican acquiescence to "world government": "This is politics as usual, and the United States will not survive politics as usual."

FBI Arrests Suspect Carter to Help Haiti in Setting In Computer Spree Parliament Vote

Los Angeles Times Service

WASHINGTON — Former President Jimmy Carter, hoping to build on Francisco who helped coordinate the investigation. "He allegedly had access to corporate his success in helping to ne-gotiate the return of Haiti's trade secrets worth billions of dollars. He was a very hig elected president, will go to Haiti this month to lend support to the often-post-poned parliamentary elec-But federal officials say Mr. Mitnick's confidence in his

hacking skills may have been his undoing. On Christmas Day, he broke into the home computer of a highly skilled computer security expert, Tsu-tomu Shimomura. 30, a resaid Wednesday.
Parliamentary elections, initially scheduled for late

searcher at the federally fi-nanced Sao Diego Supercomputer Center. Mr. Shimomura then made a crusade of tracking down the intruder, an obsession that led to Wednesday's arrest here hy

Mr. Mitnick, already wanted in California for a federal parole violation, was charged Wednesday with two federal crimes. The first, illegal use of a telephone access device, is punishable by up to 15 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

The second charge, computer come a suspect in a rash of hreak-ins on the global Internet fraud, carries potential penalties of 20 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine. Federal prosecutors said they were considering additional charges related to wanted computer hacker in the Mr. Mitnick's reported Internet world," said Kent Walker, an assistant U.S. attorney in San spree.

"We will explore ways in which we might be helpful in reinforcing a free and fair electoral process," he

last year, are oow expected in April or May. An election to choose a successor to President Jean-Bertrand Aristide is expected late this year.

Mr. Carter will be accompanied on his Feb. 23 to 26 trip hy Senator Sam Nunn, Democrat of Georgia, and the retired head of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Colin L. Powell. Both were members of his delegation in September.

When he was last in Haiti, in September, Mr. Carter negotiated the deal that cleared the way for Mr. Aristide, the only freely elected chief executive in Haiti's 200-year history, to regain the office he lost in a coup three years earlier.

What the Police Told Simpson

Officer Says Defendant Didn't Asked How Ex-Wife Died

LOS ANGELES - O. J. Simpson said "Oh my God, she's dead" and became extremely upset when a detective died, the detective testified

The detective, Ronald Philips, said he was in Mr. Simpson his ex-wife had been murdered and Mr. Simpson son's kitchen when he made the call to Mr. Simpson's hotel in China the massing of the the call to Mr. Simpson ask you son's kitchen when he made the call to Mr. Simpson's hotel in Chicago the morning after the June 12 murders of Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald L. Goldman He said the call let Joidman. He said the call ed about five minutes.

"I asked if Mr. Simpson was was killed?" registered at that hotel. Shortly thereafter a male voice that I recognized as Mr. Simpson an- occurred?" swered the phone," Mr. Phillips said. "I asked him, I said, Is this O.J. Simpson?"

"And he said, 'Yes, who is Mr. Phillips said he intro-

ex-wife Nicole Simpson has been killed." He said Mr. Simpson replied:

'Oh my God, Nicole is killed. Oh my God, she's dead. And on a walkway. then he got very upset on the

telephone." He said he tried to nificant, that glove?" asked Ms. calm Mr. Simpson down.

Prosecutors say Mr. Simpson killed Mrs. Simpson and Mr. Goldman outside her condotold him of his former wife's minium before leaving for his death, hut Mr. Simpsoo did not trip to Chicago. In a line of ask how, when or where she had questioning that was allowed over defense objections, Mr. Phillips said he oever told Mr.

"Did he ask yoo when she

"Did he ask you where it had Mr. Phillips said after he finished talking to Mr. Simpson, he handed the phone to Mr.

Simpson's daughter Arnelle. Mr. Phillips said he was then duced himself and said, "I have led to the back of a guest house some bad news for you: Your hy another detective, Mark Fuhrman. He said Mr. Fuhrman

"pointed out an object to me" - a dark glove lying in leaves "Did you think that was sig-

Mr. Phillips said yes, because "it looked like it was also the same type of glove we had seeo' Authorities have argued that

But something remarkable happened when Mr. Hope

swung his club. The shois.

though they did not go all that

far, were consistently among

the straightest in his group. Mr. Hope's face was puck ered all day, as though he were always on the verge of some wisecrack. He did unleash a

Of Mr. Ford's game, Mr. Hope joked, "They have 57 golf

courses down here and he doesn't know which one he is

going to play until after his first

the outing, the announced scores should be taken with a grain of salt: Mr. Bush, 92; Mr.

Clinton, 93, Mr. Ford, 100. Mr.

Hope apparently did not keep

No one in Wednesday's

group seemed like an especially bad golfer — just uneven. Mr.

Bush, for example, sunk a mar-velous chip shot on one hole to score a birdie and win a hig

ovation from the crowd.

Mr. Hope described the group as "three presidents and a hacker." A more precise label

would have been "four hackers, three of whom have been presi-

Given the casual nature of

the glove was the mate of ooe found near the bodies. Meanwhile, the defense dis-

meanwine, the detense dis-closed that a prime witness—a maid who lived next door to Mr. Simpson—appears to have gone to El Salvador. The maid, Rosa López, had told defense attorneys that she saw Mr. Simpson's white Ford Bronco in the street outside his estate at the time of the killings.

Canada Leader's Son Surrenders to Police

YELLOWKNIFE, Northwest Territories — The adopted son of Prime Minister Jean Chrétien of Canada has surrendered to the police, a day after a court upheld his conviction on a sexual assault charge.

Michel Chrétien turned himself in to the Royal Canadian da, he faces a three-year prison Mounted Police, who turned him over to corrections officials

WORKS WORKS WORKS WORKS WORKS

sion on his appeal.

On Tuesday, the Quebcc Court of Appeal rejected his appeal of a 1992 sexual assault conviction. Unless he appeals to the Supreme Court of Cana-

Michel Chrétien, who was 21

Wednesday afternoon. He had at the time of the incident, conbeen staying with his mother in tended that the woman who had Yellowknife pending the deci- made the accusation had agreed to have sex with him.

> For investment information Read THE MONEY REPORT every Saturday in the IHT

Mexico Proclaims Rebel Rout

SAN CRISTOBAL DE LAS CASAS, Mexico - After a five-day military thrust, the government says it has regained control of the remote jungle region in southern Mexico that Indian rebels had held for the last year. Leaders of the rebel Zapatista National Liber-

ation Army remain at large, however, along with their fighters and thousands of Indian peasant supporters.
Uncertainty over the situation in Chiapas state contributed to another drop in Mexico's stock

market and currency Thursday. "Five days after the start of the operation, order and legality has been re-established in the region," Interior Secretary Esteban Moctezuma

said Wednesday night. Today, there is no Mexican territory suppos edly controlled by a force other than those legitimately recognized in the nation," he said.

The rebels rose up Jan. I, 1994, to demand

tions. At least 145 people died before a Jan. 12 cease-fire last year halted fighting.

Thursday that had been held by the rebels since the uprising began. Many villages in the region were virtual ghost towns Wednesday. . Even pro-government peasants who remained were often wary, despite military efforts to win

them over with offers of aid.

soldier, speaking over a loudspeaker in the re-gion's Tzeltal Indian tongue, offered handouts of food, medicine and medical care. But despite their poverty, only a few villagers emerged from hiding to pluck plastic bags of food.

In the former rebel stronghold of Patihuitz, a

President Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de Leon ordered troops into the region Feb. 9, ending a yearlong truce. He said he acted after discovering

evidence that the rebels planned new attacks. But he announced Tuesday that the troops LOS BLANCOS would halt their advance in hopes of re-establishing peace contacts. Mr. Zedillo sent the legisla-ture a proposal Wednesday to grant amnesty to SAN CAPLOS better living conditions for Indian peasants in rebels who disarm. Chiapas, Mexico's poorest state, and fair elec-"It is important," he said, "to reiterate the government's belief that the solution to the Chiapas conflict is through dialogue and Troops were in dozens of remote villages negotiation."

Away From Politics

 Four Army Rangers died from exposure and four were rescued after they waded through chilly, chest-deep swamp waters during training at Eglin Air Force Base in Florida. The soldiers, whose names were not released, were in their ninth day of training.

 Governor George Pataki and legislative leaders have announced agreement on legisla-tion to restore the death penalty in New York, making it the 38th state to revive capital punishment. The last time New York state executed a criminal was in 1963. ` *(NYT)*

A man convicted of killing a high school cafeteria supervisor during a 1983 robbery

was put to death by lethal injection in Huntsville, Texas. It was the state's sixth execution this year. "I forgive all of you and I hope God forgives all of you all," Billy Conn Gardner, 51, said in his final statement.

• The court-appointed lawyer for the Islamic militant Ramzi Ahmed Yousef, who is accused of masterminding the World Trade Center bombing, said in New York that he was bowing out of the case because of a potential conflict of interest. When pressed on whether he was leaving the case because he is Jewish, Avraham Moskowitz said: "That's a fair statement."

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By Michael Richardson International Herald Tribune

SINGAPORE — By occupying another of the atolls and reels in the disputed Spratly Islands in the South China Sea recently, Beijing evidently calculated that it can expand its presence in an area it regards as strategically important without provoking a military clash with neighboring states.

At the same time, China has exposed weaknesses in the diplomatic defenses of the United States and countries in Southeast Asia that are reluctant to confront Beijing for fear of making it more assertive, analysts

The Philippines, the country immediately challenged by the Chinese action, sent reinforcements Thursday into the trouble zone — but in doing so underlined its military impotence against a regional power of China's size and relative might.

The Philippine Air Force dispatched five aging F-5 fighters backed by four jet trainers and two helicopters, while the navy sent two additional ships.

This followed an order by President Fidel V. Ramos on Wednesday to strengthen forces in the area close to

"Our entire force of F-5's has been sent there, five of them," said Colonel Felipe Gaerlan, an air force spokes-man in Manila. "Unfortunately, they are the most advanced interceptor jets

The previously unoccupied Pangan-iban atoll, also known as Mischief

NEWS ANALYSIS

Reef, is now under the control of Beijing after nine Chinese ships, several of them identified by the Philippine military as naval vessels, hrought men and materials to build a series of structures

The platforms at Panganiban are similar to garrisons that the Chinese have huilt on reefs elsewhere in the Spratlys. Aerial reconnaissance showed that some of the Chinese appeared to be soldiers. General Arturo Enrile, the chief of the Philippine armed forces, said Thursday.

Beijing maintains that the new facilities are to ensure the safety of Chinese fishermen working in the area.

Philippine officials say the reef

Panganiban Reef, a part of the Sprat-lys claimed by the Philippines. could be used as a naval anchorage and military base.

Manila has lodged a "strong diplo-matic protest" with Beijing. But Philippine officials have made it clear that the country will not attempt to dis-

lodge the Chinese by force. Diplomats said that Manila's diplomatic position was as weak as its military one, and that Beijing had moved to exploit that weakness.

Neither the United States, which has a mutual defense treaty with the Philippines, nor Manila's partners in the Association of the South East Asian Nations, have publicly supported the Philippine position.

All or part of the area of the Spratlys claimed by the Philippines is also claimed by Brunei and Malaysia, two of Manila's ASEAN partners, and by China, Vietnam and Taiwan. At a meeting in Manila in 1992, foreign ministers of ASEAN issued a

that called on the Spratly claimants to exercise restraint and settle their disputes peacefully. Vietnam subsequently endorsed the declaration, hut Beijing gave it only qualified support. Vietnam, which is expected to join ASEAN in July, is the

Declaration on the South China Sea

Panganiban Reel.

Hanoi on Thursday reasserted its claim to the Spratlys and the Paracel Islands farther north, which Chinese forces seized in 1974.

Ho The Lan, a spokeswoman for the Foreign Ministry in Hanoi, said that disagreements over sovereignty in the South China Sea must be resolved through peaceful negotiations.

Michael Leifer, a professor of inter-national relationa at the London School of Economics and Political Science, said that the "inability of Southeast Asian states to adopt a common position over the South China Sea" could encourage Beijing to continue its policy of "creeping assertiveness" in

He added that that assertiveness might be encouraged by other factors as well. For example, he said, the United States is seen by Asian countries to have "lost the will to uphold the regional balance of power, Russia does not count militarily in Southeast Asia, while Japan is viewed as a sleeping giant best left alone."

only signatory to have commented difficulties with China, has refused to publicly on the Chinese occupation of take sides in the Spratlys dispute. The United States "takes no posiBRIEFLY ASIA

CLEANUP DETAIL — Two Marines, David Setties, standing, and Cory Klepp, polishing a memorial on Iwo Jima before the 50th anniversary of the island battle.

Fatal Fire Unleashes Taipei Anger

TAICHUNG, Taiwan — Taiwan's government lashed out at illegal public buildings Thursday after a fire killed 64

people.

Flames engulfed a three-story restaurant and karaoke com-

plex in this central Taiwan city late Wednesday, trapping victims behind sealed windows and metal slats as they made

for a single exit. Fire fighters said the dead lay heaped near

doorways and windows, having choked on poisonous smoke.

Prime Minister Lien Chan said the complex was partly

illegal and vowed that any government unit found to have acted wrongly would be punished. "To maintain public safety

is the most important link in government policy." Mr. Lien

was quoted by a government spokesman as telling Parliament.

Hong Kong Media Suit Dismissed

HONG KONG — In a ruling hailed as a victory for Hong Kong media, a court on Thursday threw out an official prosecution of a newspaper that published information about

a land auction probe.

Judge Hugh Sinelair ruled that the prosecution had no case

The Ming Pao daily and three of its editorial staff were

prosecuted for revealing information about an investigation

by the Independent Commission Against Corruption into

allegations that major property developers rigged a govern-

The commission used Hong Kong's sweeping anti-corrup-

tion laws to prosecute the newspaper on the grounds that its reporting hindered the investigation. (AP)

Minister Li Peng of China has warned that corruption and abuse of power have angered the public and could threaten Communist Party rule, official media reported Thursday.

Speaking to an anti-corruption conference sponsored by

the State Council, China's cabinet, Mr. Li said Wednesday

that bribery, embezzlement and other economic crimes, abuse

of power, influence peddling and arbitrary enforcement of the laws had "aroused resentment among the hroad masses of

Top leaders of the Communist Party have stepped up an

With China's paramount leader, Deng Xiaoping, reported

anti-graft campaign in recent months, arguing that onblic

resentment toward officials could erupt into mass protests.

to be in declining health, fears of unrest appear to have

Mr. Li said the fate of the party, and the nation, hinged on

VOICES From Asia

Foreign Minister Ali Alatas of Indonesia, on the dispute

between the Philippines and China over islands in the South

China Sea: "We continue to hope that this issue of overlap-

people because they are very serious."

effectively dealing with the problem.

China Leader Assails Corruption BEIJING -- In one of the strongest messages so far, Prime

and that the action violated Hong Kong's bill of rights.

The restaurant failed a safety check Monday because it had only one exit — the main entrance — and insufficient fire-fighting facilities. (Reuters) r = 2

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Michael Call

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uon on the merits of the competing claims in the South China Sea," hut would view the use of farce in resolving differences as a serious matter, said the state department spokeswoman, Christine Shelley. Admiral Richard Macke, command-

er of U.S. forces in the Pacific, said that although China's latest action was "moving in a direction that I'm not comfortable with," dialogue "rather than isolation or confrontation" was still the best way to deal with Beijing.
Analysis said that the United States

and a number of ASEAN countries were concerned that confronting China over the Spratlys now could strengthen hard-line nationalists at the expense of moderates in the factional maneuvering to succeed the ailing Deng Xiaoping.

Shannon Selin, a research associate

in international relations at the University of British Columbia in Canada, said that problems with China could be exacerbated if skirmishing over Mr. Deng's succession led "one faction or another to court military support by taking a strong stand" on such issues as the South China Sea.

North Korea's Leader Turns 53, in Private

TOKYO - North Korea's official media said a double rainhow rose over the country's most revered peak on Thursday to mark the 53d birthday of Kim Jong Il and that baskets of flowers arrived in Pyongyang from around the world.

Absent, however, from the celebrations of what the official press agency KCNA called "the most auspicious common holiday of humankind" was the enigmatic leader himself.

There have been only a handful of reported sightings of Mr. Kim since the death in July of his father, Kim Il Sung, the nation's founder and autocratic leader for a half-century. There had been speculation that Mr. Kim might on Thurs-

day formally assume his father's posts of state president and leader of the Communist Party after the government decreed the birthday the nation's "greatest holiday." But Mr. Kim did not even to attend the Communist Party's

banquet in his honor. His long public absence and failure to formally assume positions of power seven months after the death of his father have kept alive speculation about his bealth and about a power struggle involving the country's The official press agency's birthday coverage, monitored in

Tokyo, focused on international observations of the hirthday and on mysterious natural events they said were linked to the Birthday gifts included haskets from the Communist Party

of China; Yasser Arafat, the head of the Palestine Liberation Organization; and the Libyan leader, Colonel Moammar Gadhafi, the press agency said,

North Korean scientists were reported to have observed on Monday twin rainbows in the sky over Mount Packtu, revered as the country's most sacred mountain and named in official documents as Mr. Kim's birthplace.

Afghan Chief Quits, **UN Envoy Reports**

Militia Won't Join Interim Council

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan -A UN envoy said Thursday that President Burhanuddin Rabhani of Afghanistan would hand over power to an interim council in Kabul, the capital, in the next few days.

"I am expecting Rahbani to step down on Monday and transfer power," said the envoy, Mahmoud Mestiri. "Of course there is always some uncertainty, but I am confident."

But he said that the crusading Islamic militia known as the Talehan had refused to be represented on the council.

"They said no because they don't want to be with parties they consider criminals," Mr. Mestiri said.

Mr. Mestiri, a former foreign minister of Tunisja, said he would fly to Kabul on Friday with some of the Afghan leaders who will make up the inter-im council of about 25 mem-

The Talehan swept to the gates of Kabul this week, dislodging the forces of Gulbud-

din Hekmatyar, the main opposition leader, and dramatically changing the Afghan balance of

■ A Potent Fighting Force John F. Burns of The New York Times reported earlier from Islamabad:

The Taleban, a force of selfprofessed Islamic purists and Alghan patriots, many of them former religious students, has

taken control of more than 40 percent of Afghanistan.

It is now by far the most powerful force in the country.

The group has made hig gains in 9 of Afghanistan's 30 provinces. Its drive has created the largest chunk of Afghanistan under united control since Soviet forces arrived in December

This week, a Taleban force halted barely 15 kilometers (nine miles) from Kabul and issued an ultimanum - renewed Thursday — that the city's defenders withdraw, an indication that Kabul is next in their sights.

Along the way, the Taleban has uprooted scores of mujahidin commanders, the self-styled "soldiers of God" who took to Afghanistan's wild valleys and mountains to fight the Soviet

occupiers 15 years ago. An explosion of popular resentment against the warlords has been as much a factor in the Taleban's success as its military might. Many Afghans say they see in the new force the salva-

ghans for the Taleban is not wholly shared by diplomats who have worked for years to secure an Afghan peace. As Taleban successes grew in recent weeks, the mujahidin leaders who led the resistance to the

them for years.

recede.

Deng Rong, a daughter of Deng Xiaoping, on the senior leader of China: "Health permitting, he said he wanted to set font in Hong Kong in 1997. He would be willing to go in a wheelchair. He still has this hope." (Reuters) danger, even 30 years after ple who have been freed of the communism was hanned in In- warlords' repression begins to

BANGKOK -- Thailand ordered security forces onto full alert Thursday along the fronuer with Burma after a series of border violations by Burmese troops battling ethnic Karen re-

Thailand's military command ordered security forces in respond immediately to incursions hy Burmese forces engaged in an offensive against a Karen base near the frontier, officials said.

site the main Karen base at Kawmoora, inside Burma, hut

ister, Surin Pitsuwan, said, "We have expressed our serious concern that if the problem persists, then it would sour the atmosphere of good neighborly relations in the region, which all of us have tried to develop in the past few years."

The Burmese military junta is engaged in a major offensive against Karen insurgents and their allies, who are concentrated in bases in Burma near the

Last week, three Karen, including a rebel leader, were kidnapped from a refugee camp in Thailand by Karen commandos working for the junta in Rangoon. They were turned over to the Burmese authorities.

Thailand in an effort to get to the Kawmoora camp.

hemmed in by 3,000 Burmese troops. A river that forms the border between Thailand and Burma wraps around three sides of the horseshoe-shaped ous artillery shelling over the

With some Burmese shells falling on the Thai side of the fronuer, the action has caused growing concern in Bangkok.

Burma would have to enter Thailand to completely surround the Karen camp and effectively end resistance.

For Jailing 23 Buddhists

HANOI - The two most sereligion."

nior members of Viennam's dissident Buddhist church were among 23 monks who have been arrested since October, Amnesty International said in a

rights group added that many others have been questioned at least once. It said it believed that 36 monks in all had been The 1,000 rebel defenders are detained, some since the late

"These arrests and the events leading to them," the report said, "show the continuing re-pression of Buddhisis in Vietnam and are in flagrant contra-diction to the Vietnamese government's assertion of free-

dom of religion." Amnesty International called for the "immediate and uncon-ditional" release of Thich Huyen Quang and Thich Quang Do, two leaders of the Unified Buddhist Church of

Vietnam. It said they were "detained to freedom of expression and

The rights group said the other detainees were probably also "prisoners of conscience," but could not be more specific because it lacked detailed information about them.

Amnesty International called on Hanoi to release any monks detained simply for their religious opinions.

The monks were arrested be-tween Oct. 29 and Jan. 4 following an attempt by the dissident church to organize an aid convoy from Ho Chi Minh City to help victims of flooding in the Mekong delta.

the detention of the church's



A North Korean patrolling along the DMZ on Thursday, the birthday of his country's leader, Kim Jong II.

Indonesian Official Says Jakarta Must Stop Exploiting the Poor JAKARTA — A senior gov-

The Minister of Defense and Security, General Edi Sudradjat, told a parliamentary hear-tend with "the exploitation of

He said the nation must con- pensation." ing Wednesday that the danger workers who are paid meager came from the "excessive ex-

a newspaper reported Thurs-day.

ploitation of the weak and pow-erless by the strong and afflu-poor farmers whose lands were the nation's textile producers

Such exploitation has been

the source of tension and conflict in the past, he said.

TODAY'S

HOLIDAYS

& TRAVEL

SECTION

Appears

on Page 8

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ent," the Jakarta Post reported. procured for very small com- asked to be exempted from hav-

in addition to the disparity between rich and poor, the gap between the level of development of the various islands has widened. That disparity must also be addressed to preserve national security, he added.

he said.

"Such a gap could sow dis-content, which in turn would mon ground that had cluded affect the unity of the nation,"

minimum daily wage. They said they could not afford it. The Indonesian government estimates that 26 million people out of the population of 190 million are poor. General Sudradjat said that

donesia

ing to pay an increase in the

tion for their country that they

have waited for so long.
The enthusiasm of many Af-

Some of the group's strict

The minister said that a Muslim beliefs could stir pro-Communist revival remains a test once the relief felt hy peo-

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TODAY'S REAL ESTATE MARKEIPLACE

ernment minister has warned

that exploitation of the poor

and a growing economic dispar-

ity between classes are a threat

to Indonesia's national security.

Appears on Page 15

PERSONALS

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Thais Alert Border Unit To Burmese Incursions

Agence France-Press Thai border.

Thailand's 3d Army commander, Surachet Dechauwong, said that Burmese forces had asked Thai troops to withdraw from a district oppo-

that the Thais refused. On Wednesday, the Foreign Ministry summined the Burmese ambassador to Bangknk, U Tin Winn, for the second time in two weeks to protest incidents along the border.
The Thai deputy foreign min-

Also last week, the Thai Army fought off about 50 Bur-mese soldiers who intruded into

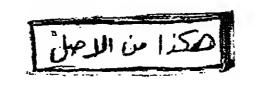
Kawmoora camp. The camp has been under almost continupast three weeks.

ping claims of sovereignty can be peacefully resolved either bilaterally or multilaterally." (Reuters) Nikhil Gupte, a trader with D.S. Purboodhas, on a decline in Indian stocks after news that state-owned banks had raised prime lending rates: "Though this was in the cards, these guys have really gone and done it."

(Bloomberg) Vietnam Is Criticized report released Thursday. The London-based human

> The arrests culminated with No. 2, Mr. Do, on Dec. 29 and its patriarch, Mr. Quang, on

According to the authorities, Mr. Do will be tried shortly for "violating Vietnamese law." They have denied detaining the patriarch, saying only that he was transferred "at the request solely for exercising their rights of the local clergy."





Three Bosnian children roller-skating at a Sarajevo cemetery Thursday, as a cease-fire in the capital continued to hold.

5 Powers to Sweeten Their Offer to Serbia

By Roger Cohen
New York Times Service

PARIS — The five nations pursuing a peace settlement in Bosnia have agreed to offer President Slobodan Milosevic of Serbia more than a suspension of international trade sanctions in exchange for his recog-nition of Bosnia and Croatia, French officials said Thursday.

The officials said that when Foreign Minister Andrei V. Kozyrev of Russia visits Belgrade on Saturday to present the lat-est ideas of the five-nation "contact group," he will make clear to Mr. Milosevie that recognition would be accompanied by explicit guarantees for the Bosnian and Croatian Serbs.

President Alija Izetbegovic of Bosnia's mostly Muslim government would be required to give formal acceptance to the idea that the Bosnian Serbs are entitled to a "parallel treatment" to that accorded to Muslims and Croats in Bosnia. The

and Croats and intranscer of the Bosnian
nated rump Yugoslav federation. He said, "We cannot recognize Croatia and Bosnia until

cy would presumably give the control. Bosnian Serbs the right to a similar arrangement with Ser-

Serbs in Croatia are not abrupt-

an American-backed plan for the Croatian Serbs that offers autonomy. The Croatian government does not like the plan.

In this way, the officials hope, Mr. Milosevic could argue that recognition of Bosnia

Muslims and Croats have been paigns to remain united with political solntions for the dis-offered the right to confederate Serhia and evict or kill non-pute in which all sides are with Croatia, so such equivalen- Serbs in the areas under their

> Serbs hold about 70 percent of Bosnia and 30 percent of

bia.

President Franjo Tudjman of
Croatia would be required to
rescind his demand that the losevic's priority is now an end United Nations troops who to Serbia's isolation and eco-provide a buffer to the Croatian nomic decline and that he no Serbs leave the country after longer sees military means as March 31. Thus, Mr. Milosevie the way to defend Serbian interwould gain the assurance that ests outside Serbia. That is the

Serbs in Croatia are not abruptly exposed to attack.

Mr. Tudjman would also be
asked to accept negotiations on of persuading Mr. Milosevic to the Croatian Serbs that offers opt for recognition of two counmost of them virtually complete tries whose borders be has contested for four years.

The newspaper Politika, which is close to Mr. Milosevic. reprinted comments from Vladislav Jovanovic, the foreign and Croatia did not amount to minister of the Serbian-domi-

pute in which all sides are equally treated are found."

Zarko Jokanovic, a spokes-man for the New Democracy Party, which is allied with Mr. Milosevie's Serbian Socialist high treason."

Andreotti to Mafia State Cites Compelling Proof **Connecting Crime to Politics** Washington Past Service

Italian Probe Links

By William Drozdiak

ROME - Italy's anti-Mafia prosecutors say they have un-earthed some of the most explosive evidence to date linking one of the country's major politicians of the postwar era to the

most powerful ringleaders of organized crime in Sicily. Nearly two years after they began exploring alleged con-nections between Mafia clans and political parties, investiga-tors said they had gathered what they consider to be compelling proof of a long and secret relationship between the Cosa Nostra leadership and Giulio Andreotti, 76, the Christian Democrat leader who served as prime minister in sev-

how the Christian Democrats gangland euphemism for being exercised a virtual political monopoly in the south hy trading favors with crime syndicates that could deliver large blocs of votes. The party, which domi-nated Italian politics for more than four decades, was dissolved last year in the aftermath of the massive corruption scandal involving kickhacks for

state contracts.
Mr. Andreotti has denied all Party, said, "What is demanded charges that he was linked in of Serbia is too much considerany way to the Malia and said ing the offer." And Vojislav Sesuch claims were motivated by self, the leader of the hard-line a desire by informants to exact Serbian Radical Party, said recrevenge for the efforts by his ognition would amount to governments to curb the Sicil-

But judiciary officials said testimony from politicians close to Mr. Andreotti would demonstrate the extraordinary extent of cooperation between the Ma-fia and the Christian Democrats, who were led for many years by Mr. Andreotti.

The sources said the evidence would show how the Mafia's political clout eventually be-came so great that it heavily influenced the choice of judges and Christian Democratic political candidates - who in turn would ensure tolerance of Mafia activities and provide lenient treatment for criminal figures who were arrested.

Giancarlo Caselli, chief prosecutor in Palermo, said the evi-dence would be unveiled at a hearing Friday at which he will ask the examining magistrate to place Mr. Andreotti on trial for en governments.

Judicial sources said the evidence would shed new light on dence would she woul

The hearing already has been postponed three times. Mr. Andreotti's lawyers said they probably would ask another adjournment for time to scrutinize the fresh evidence.

The prosecution has huilt much of its case, spelled out in more than 86,000 pages, on testimony from prominent Mafia turncoats such as Tommaso Buscetta, who have hroken their vows of silence in return for leniency. Mr. Buscetta lives in the United States under an assumed identity but has returned on several occasions to testify against the Mafia.

But the most damaging information, judicial sources said, has come lately from Mr. Andreotti's own Sicilian political protegés, including a former senator, Franco Evangelisti, and Gioacchino Pennino, who was a Christian Democrat member of the Palermo City Council.

Mr. Caselli said Mr. Pennino, in particular, had furnished de-tailed information that helped explain how the mutually beneficial arrangements between the Christian Democratic Party and Mafia chieftains evolved from their common hatred of the Communists.

Judicial sources said Mr. Pennino's testimony was pri-marily responsible for the arrest this week of two Christian Democratic Parliament members from Sicily, ex-Senator Vincenzo Inzerillo and former government minister Calogero Mannino, who were charged with working for the Mafia.

The Associated Press FRANKFURT - The number of Jews in Germany has nearly doubled since 1989. thanks to immigration from Eastern Europe, and now there are more than 45,000, Jewish officials said Thursday. Before the Holocaust, there were about

BRIEFLY EUROPE

EU Anti-Racism Body Is Proposed

STRASBOURG — The European Union should set up a watchdog body to monitor and curb racist attacks on minorities, the European Parliament said Thursday.

The assembly was reacting to the killings earlier this month of four Gypsy men in Austria by a booby-trapped bomb that the police helieve was planted by neo-Nazis. Austria joined the EU in January.

(Reuers)

Russia's Ban on Visit Is Protested

MOSCOW — The European Parliament protested Wednesday over a Russian decision to forbid a European Union delegation to travel to the breakaway southern republic of Chechnya next week.

An official statement said the European Parliament's chairman, Klaus Haensch, would regard the Russian move "as a severe blow" to relations with Russia.

The delegation was due to head for Chechnya via Moscow from Feb. 19 to 24 on a fact-finding mission. But the Russian Consulate in Strasbourg refused to issue the visas. (Reuters)

Don't Isolate Kussia, Claes Warns

PARIS - Willy Claes, secretary-general of the North Atlantie Treaty Organization, was quoted Thursday as saying that the West must avoid isolating Russia over its crushing of

the rebellion in Chechnya.

In an interview with the French newspaper Le Monde, Mr. Claes said that ostracizing Russia over repression in Chechnya would only help hard-liners in Moscow and complicate an eventual expansion of NATO to include central European states seeking membership.

(Returns)

French Hairdressers Lose in Court

LUXEMBOURG - The European Court of Justice on Thursday upheld French rules requiring French hairdressers to bold a diploma, when those from other European Union states do not need one to work in France.

Seven French hairdressers, facing proceedings before a court in Charleville-Mezières for running salons without holding a national diploma, had argued that French law discriminated against them while favoring other EU nation-

Britons Balk at Single Currency

LONDON — A majority of Britons would vote against having a single currency in Europe, an opinion poll showed Thursday.

Seventy percent of those polled said Britain should have a referendum on the issue, which has caused hitter divisions in Prime Minister John Major's Conservative government and brought it to the brink of parliamentary defeat.

Asked for their voting intentions in a referendum, 51 percent said they would reject a single European currency, 26 supported the idea and the rest were undecided. (Reuters)

EU to Aid Somalia Water Project

BRUSSELS - The European Union announced Thursday that it would provide \$874,000 for a water purification project in the Somali capital, Mogadishu. The group's executive agency said the money would help restore a water pumping agency said the money would neap restore a want and purification station that serves more than half the population of Mogadishn.

European Union events scheduled for Friday: STRASBOURG: End of European Parliament plenary ses-

sion in Strasbourg. BRUSSELS: President Eduard Shevardnadze of Georgia visits the European Commission and will meet its president, Jacques Santer.

NANCY: Informal meeting of EU public works ministers in this eastern French city, joined by EU commissioners Padraig Flynn and Erkki Liikanen.

BRUSSELS: Annual symposium between the European hureau for minority languages and the European Commission, which will concentrate on Austria, Finland and Sweden's membership in the EU.

BRUSSELS: Europeans and Japanese continue their consultation on the enforcement terms and conditions of their agreement on cars. The introduction of new European Union member states into the agreement, which is informal and voluntary, is one of the main objects of discussion.

Sources: Agence Europe, AFP.

EU-Turkey Accord Hits Snag STRASBOURG — The European Parliament threw furcustoms union. directly elected body, has the begin negotiation on EU mempower to block deals such as the customs union. begin negotiation on EU mempower to block deals such as the customs union.

ropean Parliament threw fur. . customs union. ther doubt on European Union plans for a customs agreement with Turkey on Thursday, saying Ankara's human rights record was too poor for the deal

to be allowed to go through.

Memhers of Parliament adopted a resolution describing Turkey's rights record as "too grave to allow for the formation of the proposed custom union at present.

They said they would not approve a deal granting Turkey access to EU markets unless they heard reports of progress in the human rights area. Under the Maastricht treaty, the Parliament, the EU's only

Oysters "R"

Far Too Many

PARIS - French oyster

growers are choking on a

4,000-ton oyster mountain,

caused by a slide in foreign

orders and a mild winter

that has let the shellfish get

too fal.

23 Buddhit

hard to agree on a deal that would allow Greece, Turkey's of the customs union.

Unionists **Warn Major**

On Proposal

Prime Minister John Major on Thursday that his plans for peace in Northern Ireland were macceptably one-sided.

Three members of Parliament representing Unionists

who want the province to stay British said Mr. Major failed to dispel their fears at a meeting earlier this week that the proposals amounted to a sell-out to "While we remain willing to

The warm temperatures have helped the oysters grow too big for traditional consumption — eaten raw from the shell. Some weigh more than 500 grams (1 pound) each. Growers say

that orders from abroad, especially from Italy, have also fallen. "In my opinion, the only solution is destruction," the grower François Cadoret told TF1 television in Brit-

European Union foreign

longtime rival, to drop its veto

In exchange for Athens' lift-

LONDON — Opponents of Irish reunification bluntly told

discuss our own reasonable pro-posals, we would not be able to enter into talks on the basis of an agenda which we regard to be a one-sided nationalist agenda," they said in a letter to Mr.

Britain and Ireland are trying to bring Unionist and nationalist parties together to discuss how to cement peace in North-ern Ireland, still fragile after cease-fires six months ago ended a 25-year-old civil war that

view of its own future, ministers have been working due to begin next year. Greece is eager to see Cyprus, partitioned into Greek and

Turkish communities since a 1974 Turkish invasion, join the Union. It has, however, been ing its objections, the EU would bolding off lifting its veto, demanding various clarifications-

By Alan Cowell

New York Times Service

BONN - After complaints

by a leading literary critic and other figures, a German pub-lisher has ordered the with-

drawal and destruction of the

German-language version of a

book asserting that Jews ran

internment camps for Germans

The book, "Eye for an Eye" by John Sack, had been labeled "anti-Semitic fodder" in a re-

view by one of Germany's lead-

ing literary critics. Eike Geisel.

News of its impending publica-tion stirred charges that the

book would be exploited by

in postwar Poland.

The customs union, which foresees sharp two-way reductions in trade barriers by 1996. would give Turkey some of the closest links to the EU of a nonmember country and unblock as much as \$1 billion in

Swiss Particle Physics Lab Is Crippled by a Saboteur

A disgruntled technician sabotaged the world's largest particle physics laboratory, in Geneva, by dismantling hun-dreds of complex electronic modules, a spokesman said

The spokesman for the European Particle Physics Labora-tory said most of the 1,300 modules were found in hiding places under the flooring or behind walls and appeared to be undamaged. It will take weeks to reinstall and test them. The modules controlled the operation of a huge particle accelerator known as a proton synchroton.

His former wife works as an administrative assistant at the laboratory, which straddles the Swiss-French frontier. The police in Bourg-en-Bresse, France, identified the man as Nicolas Blazianu, 53, of Romanian origin. They said he would be charged with theft and attempted extortion.

dismantle the control system. All the particle experiments at the laboratory depend on the proton synchroton, which accelerates particles to an initial speed, or energy level. They are then injected into larger accelerators where they are collided together to recreate the conditions in the very early stages of the universe.

periments on the laboratory's main electronic collider were scheduled to resume in April, and the spokesman said it was hoped to get the synchroton working by then.
About 9,000 people, including 5,000 physicists, work at the

ook had already been printed, ago that led up to the Nazi capitulation in May 1945.

Viktor Niemann, the publisher of Piper, said in the state-

of 6 million Jews.

out, 6,000 German copies of the book had already been printed,

though none had yet been sold.

Verlag of Munich, said in a

statement that the book "could

become the cause for some mis-

understanding, that is that the

Holocaust might be compared with other crimes of that time

or could even be set off against

book reflected profound sensi-

The decision to withdraw the

The German publisher, Piper

ment of Germans to the killing of the traumatic events 50 years to oversee secret police activi-

ment that "everything must be

avoided that could possibly

turn the discussion into a wrong

Mr. Niemann, who has said

the print run would probably be

recycled, could not be reached

Wednesday night to say whether the books, stacked in a Stutt-

gart warehouse, had already been destroyed.

tivities over Germany's view of nalist, argued in "Eye for an camps between 1945 and 1948, its own past, especially in a year Eye" (Basic Books, 1993) that Some American critics as-

Mr. Sack, an American jour-

Colleagues said the technician, who had been with the laboratory for 27 years, was tormented by his recent divorce.

The spokesman said the technician worked all weekend to

The laboratory's experiments are shut during the winter months to allow for maintenance and reprogramming. Ex-

Jews Immigrate to Germany

500,000 Jews in Germany.

ties in the former German terri-

The author based his conclu-

sions on interviews with several

high-ranking Jewish members

of the Office of State Security, the Polish Communist organi-

zation that, under Soviet super-

vision, maintained some former

Nazi death camps in Poland af-

According to Mr. Sack, the German Federal Archives say

that 60,000 to 80,000 Germans

died in Polish internment

ter World War II.

tories of postwar Poland.

Publisher to Destroy Book Alleging Jews Ran Camps YACHT FOR SALE neo-Nazis likening the treat- studded with commemorations Stalin deliberately chose Jews sailed the book as sensational. 1990 Oyster 68 But Mr. Sack said Wednes-

Lying Southern France. Excellent condition. Very well equipped. Being well looked after

been substantially challenged. full time professional crew "The story I'm trying to get Never chartered. out is that the story has been fact-checked" hy major Ameri-Phone: 033 94 43 23 05 can news organizations, he said, and "nobody has yet found any Fox: 033 94 56 13 14

day that 15 months after the

book was published in the Unit-

ed States, its veracity had not

error in it."

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Herald Cribune

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Herald Eribune THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

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 Examination of changing consumer trends. ■ Foreign investment – a record \$18 billion

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A review of the Jakarta stock market.

Herald Eribunc

in 1994.

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THE WORLD'S DAILS NEWSPAPER

Don't Reward Serbia

The Five Are Wrong

The five-power negotiating group on Bosnia — France, Britain, Germany and Russia, in addition to the United States is offering to lift all remaining United Nations economic sanctions on Serbia. In return it asks Belgrade to recognize the independence of Bosnia and Croatia and cut off supplies to rebel Serbian armies in both countries.

That might be a reasonable proposal if Serbia's president, Slobodan Milosevic. had a record of honoring his commitments, or if the five-power group had a record of insisting on compliance with its deals. Neither is true.

The Clinton administration, which portrays itself as a reluctant partner in Europe's pro-Serbian strategy, should have rejected this latest diplomatic charade. The new humiliations it courts can only strengthen the hand of Senate critics like Bob Dole, the majority leader, who are pushing Washington to ditch its European allies and independently lift the arms

embargo on the Bosnian government.

The latest offer to Belgrade comes as evidence mounts that Serbia has not lived up to the last deal it made with the five powers. Last year Mr. Milosevic pledged to stop supplying the Bosnian Serbs in exchange for a partial lifting of UN sanctions against Serbia. Recently Serbian helicopters have been brazenly flying supplies across the supposedly sealed border. Yet instead of reimposing the lifted sanctions there is an offer to elimi-

Seeking a Phony Peace

The United States and its partners in dealing with the old Yugoslavia have got it upside down. What they should be doing is putting more pressure on Serbia and the Serbian rebels it supports in Bosnia and Croatia. What they actually are doing is putting on less pressure by prematurely opening up the possibility of ending the already partly suspended, porous sanctions on Serbia that are in place.

five-nation Contact Group takes as its stated purpose to draw the Serbian regime of Slobodan Milosevic into formal acceptance of international peace plans for Bosnia and Croatia. But it was always implicit anyway that if Mr. Milosevic decided to rein in his wild ambitions for a Greater Serbia, the sanctions on him would fade away. Now to make it explicit
— while be still cheats on his pledges, before he has shown a commitment to restraint - is to invite him to bargain the Contact Group down: to extract a large concession for a minimal policy change. It is easy enough to grasp wby the Contact Group finds itself in the weird position of proposing to suspend not the

nate those which remain. The sanctions lifted last year were symbolic. Those now being discussed affect Serbia's ability to

wage protracted war.
Washington's motive in going along with the five-power plan was apparently fear that Croatia would expel UN forces from its territory, perhaps triggering a wider war. Serbian recognition of Croatian independence, in theory, might allow the UN troops to stay. It is a worthy, if elusive, objective, but the price is too high.

Bribing Mr. Milosevic to make peace was never the Clinton administration's preferred policy. Washington long and correctly argued that the world should let Bosnia defend itself by lifting the unfair arms embargo that tilts the battlefield balance toward the Serbs. Regrettably. the administration has all but dropped its efforts on the arms embargo in the name of NATO unity. But instead of strengthening NATO, the administration's pas-sivity toward Europe has weakened it. American lawmakers are becoming dis-enchanted with an alliance in which American dollars and troops are welcome but American ideas are not.

Washington needs to reconsider this latest proposal to court the Serbs. Instead it should start pressing its allies to move together toward lifting the Bosnian arms embargo before the Senate forces separate American action. The time to talk about lifting more sanctions on Serbia will come when Serbia starts honoring its commitments.

- THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Bosnia, but the economic sanctions on the chief offender, Serbia. It is because none of the group's five members has a taste for employing the force it would take to stiffen their lowest-common-denominator collective diplomacy.

coming altogether laughable, the five should at the least be stiffening it with tougher sanctions on Serbia. But this they decline to do.

now perceived by the Contact Group is that the war will spread. But the burden of constraining it is being put largely on the Muslims and, to a lesser extent, the Croats. They can fairly wonder whether they are not being asked to swallow huge Serbian incursions on their territory, viability and sovereignty for the geopolitical convenience of states far from the battlefield and substantially unaffected by its flows. Feeling abandoned even as their fundamental interests are threatened, Muslims and Croats may yet be confirmed in a judgment that they can satisfy their legitimate political goals only by military means. Seeking a phony peace the United States and its partners may be

-THE WASHINGTON POST.

UN Peacekeeping Was and Will Remain Invaluable

WASHINGTON — "As you know the United States ... has a strong interest in the early establishment of standby arrangements for a United Nations Peace Force. The interest of the American people in this concept is fur-ther demonstrated by the fact that during the past year resolutions were adopted by both the House of Representatives and the Senate calling for the establishment of a United Nations force."

Those words, written by an American cretary of state, John Foster Dulles, to a UN secretary general, Dog Hammar-

The capacity and effectiveness of UN peacekeeping need to be strengthened, not diminished.

skjold, provide a good measure of how different the climate in Washington is these days toward the idea of UN peace-

keeping operations.
"I want to assure you that the United States is prepared to assist you in every feasible manner in strengthening the capacity of the United Nations to discharge its responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, a task to which you have already contributed so much," Mr. Dulles wrote in that 1958 letter.

Mr. Hammarskjold responded cautiously. At that high point in the Cold War he feared that a standing UN force, actively opposed by the Soviet Union, would become a political fontball be-

WASHINGTON — It did not take long for the peso crisis

southern part of the country.

try or for the United States. To

ignore this warning, as Washing-

ton mounts a rescue operation to

get the government of President Ernesto Zedillo out of its current

mess, is to invite an even more

fundamental crisis in the future.

An explosive social and politi-cal situation has been building for

some time in Mexico. One reason

for this can be seen in a central

feature of the government's latest

development strategy: an agree-

PRUSSELS - NATO's recent

five countries south of the Medi-

terranean raised a ripple of ex-

citement and a number of ques-

tions. Was an extension to the

sonth envisaged to complement that to the east? Would the organi-

zation take a hand in the faltering

Middle East peace process? Did it

intend to become involved in vio-

lent confrontation in North Afri-

ca? Was it only trying to find another role to justify its existence?

Allied diplomats say the initia-

tive was intended merely to

achieve better mutual understand-

ing, inform Mediterranean gov-

ernments about NATO's peace-

keeping potential, and demon-

strate its interest in security in an

unstable region. Extension of this

dialogue to other Mediterranean

countries was envisaged for the

By Brian Urquhart

tween East and West, destroying the fragile innovation of peacekeeping that he had pioneered during the Suez crisis of 1956 and the Lebanon crisis of 1958.

President Dwight Eisenhower and Secretary Dulles, on the other hand, evidently saw a standby UN peacekeeping capacity as being greatly in the interest of the United States.

In fact, just 18 months later President Eisenhower, pressed by the new prime minister of the Congo for U.S. intervention there, advoitly referred him to the United Nations. The resulting peacekeeping operation was widely regarded as an extraordinary success in dealing with the chaos there.

Since that time the United Nations has undertaken some 25 such assignments of varying sizes in different parts of the world. Given the desperate origins of most of these operations, it is scarcely surprising that not all have achieved all their objectives. But it is worth noting that in the present controversy over peacekeeping, the successful operations — which constitute the majority - are seldom mentioned.

In recent months, for example, there has been much discussion of placing U.S. troops in the Golan Heights as part of the Middle East peace process, but little mention of the UN Disengagement Observer Force, which bas successfully presided over peace on the Golan Heights since 1974.

Somalia and Bosnia are constantly

invoked, but the Nobel Peace Prize of 1988 and later successes in Namihia. Cambodia, El Salvador and Mozam-

bique are routinely forgotten. The prevailing attitude in Washington toward UN peacekeeping these days seems to be a radical reversal of the earlier U.S. attitude. The impression is often given now that past U.S. support of these efforts was an aberration, a charitable — and largely unwise — gesture of condescension. But in fact, from Suez in 1956 to the present time. UN peacekeeping has far more often been a vital ele-ment of U.S. foreign policy. During the Cold War, it was vital to

maintaining international peace and security, because, among other things, it kept regional conflicts out of the U.S.-Soviet orbit and lessened the potential of such conflicts for provoking nuclear East-West confrontation.

In the post-Cold War world, that motivation for supporting peacekeeping no longer exists. The United Nations' new involvements are for the most part in massive civil and ethnic conflicts where human, not international, security is involved, although such disasters often cause major destabilization in neighboring states as well as strong emotional reactions worldwide.

It is this change in the basic character of conflict that bas led the more vocal opponents of United Nations peaceeping to argue that there is little or no U.S. national interest in it.

But as Charles William Maynes has pointed out in testimony before the House Foreign Affairs Committee, today's great powers are "like the most successful members of any communiry." He continued: "They have a stake in the general bealth of the community. They cannot and should not be the world's policeman."

Great powers have major economic and other interests in global stability, but find it increasingly unwise to intervene on their own in regional conflicts. It was considerations such as these that underlay the enthusiasm of Mr. Dulles and Mr. Eisenhower for building up the peace-keeping capacity of the United Nations. Even the most criticized UN opera-

tions, such as the protection force in ex-Yugoslavia, often serve as a useful pre-text for avoiding more intensive U.S. involvement, and as a screen for differences with allies. Imperfect though they are, they also save thousands of lives.

UN peacekeeping can be, and will continue to be, an invaluable — even an indispensable — instrument of peace. Its capacity and effectiveness need to be strengthened, not diminished.

To be sure, new forms, rules and methods, including a training system. need to be developed. But the cost of peacekeeping, contrary to widespread belief, is small by comparison with the cost of massive military involvement, which timely peacekeeping often succeeds in making unnecessary. John Foster Dulles got it right.

The writer, a former UN undersecre-tary general, is a scholar in residence at the Ford Foundation. He contributed this comment to The Washington Post.

This new sweetener concocted by the

To prevent their diplomacy from be-

A tragic irony is building. The danger stoking a greater war.

By Jerome L. Levinson

By Frederick Bonnart

increases substantially lower than

to escalate into a full-fledged national crisis for Mexico and its the inflation rate in 1995. ruling party. Far from being just a short-term financial market pbebecause the official labor union nomenon, the country's currency confederations in Mexico are addevaluation has been followed in juncts of the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party, more at-tuned to the political demands of rapid order by defeat in an important state election and by troubling developments with rethe government than to the intergard to the peasant uprising in the ests of their members. That is why they agreed to a "social pact" It is becoming increasingly during the past seven years that often resulted in suppressing the clear that the development strategy being followed by Mexico is not viable, either within the coun-

real wages of workers. Once again, as in the decade of the 1980s, Mexican workers who were assured that passage of the North American Free Trade Agreement would lead to higher wages and employment — are being asked to bear the brunt of an austerity program demanded by foreign creditors.

The regressive wage policy coincides with the question of land and its ownership. Land in Mexico is often communally owned by peasant communities, the ejidos. In order to prepare Mexico for ment by labor unions to wage

future. It was in keeping with alli-

ance concerns to strengthen re-

gional stability mentioned at the

June and December 1994 foreign

ministers' meetings. And action had been urged by French Defense

Minister François Léotard at the

informal meeting of defense minis-

goes, but it does not go far

enough. The nub is in what bas

Mauritania, Morocco, Tunisia,

Egypt and Israel. The two coun-

tries on the Mediterranean's

southern shores omitted from it

NATO's southern members,

in particular France, Italy and

Spain, are under increasing eco-

This is no doubt true as far as it

The approach was made to

ters in Seville in September.

been left unsaid.

are Algeria and Libya.

NAFTA, the predecessor government of Carlos Salinas de Gortari amended the constitution to permit the ejido lands to be divided among their members, making it easier for individuals to sell their land to larger, more efficient landowners better able to compete with U.S. and Canadian producers after a transition period

envisioned by NAFTA. This process displaced large numbers of poor peasants, fueled the peasant uprising m Chiapas and accounted for much of the sympathy that the southern uprising initially drew from roral areas in other Mexican states,

Moreover, a significant part of Mexico's small and medium laborintensive manufacturing sector has been devastated by the open-im-port regime of NAFTA and Mexico's adherence to GATT. The result has been increasing concentration of economic assets in a relatively small group of Mexican conglomerates, accentuating glar-ing income inequalities.

nomic and demographic pressure

from across the water. They wor-

ry about infiltration of terrorists

and about the dangers to the large

numbers of their nationals who

NATO points out that initial

contacts are merely at ambassa-

dor level in Brussels, and that no

further significance should be

read into them. But a move such

as this is highly political. So it is

necessary to be clear about its

aim, and to assess consequences.

the light of statements about the dangers of international terror-

ism on the one hand and prolifer-

ation of weapons of mass destruc-

tion on the other. NATO's sec-

retary-general, Willy Claes, has called fundamentalism the great-

The approach will be judged in

live in those countries.

All these things, combined with the response to the immediate financial crisis - accelerated entry of foreign banks and proposed distress sale of remaining stateowned assets to powerful private domestic and foreign investors make for a politically combustible situation.

The loss of important elections in the state of Jalisco, and President Zedillo's stops and starts on dealing with the problem in Chiapas, could be just the first signs of domestic unrest that will make the peso crisis lonk like a tempest in a teapot. The safety valve for the social and political tinderbox that is Mexico today has been emigration

to the United States by the population displaced by Mexico's economic and social revolution. But California's Proposition 187 has made clear that this outlet valve cannot be counted on any longer. At the outset of the devaluation crisis. President Zedillo reacted

with commendable candor. "The development of Mexico demands that we recognize with all realism

Beyond the Peso, Mexico's Whole Development Strategy Is in Crisis that we do not constitute a rich country but a nation of grave

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needs and wants," he said. That statement should be a departure point for a revamping of Mexico's development strategy.

Another should be this warning in a World Bank 1993 strategy paper concerning Mexico: "How the government responds to chronic poverty — and the possibly more visible and politically charged problem of a policy-in-duced deterioration in the distribution of income - may be critical to the continuing viability of

its economic program."
Whatever the details of such a reconsideration, it is evident that the neoliberal economic model which has prevailed in Mexico, with its excessive dependence upon foreign portfolio and direct investment, cannot, in either Mexico or the United States, be politically or socially sustained.

The writer, a research associate at the Economic Policy Institute, contributed this comment to The Washington Post.

About Secretary Brown

Confronted with suspicious-looking fi-nancial dealings by one of his highest-hold an interest in any business that deonie cadinei officers. President Bul Clinton has responded with a debatable non sequitur. Ron Brown, he has said, has "been a great commerce secretary." As Mr. Clinton should have learned at considerable pain, slippery language is no

military embargo on the chief victim.

way to treat a serious ethics question. Whether or not Mr. Brown engaged in shady practices, the presidential brushoff suggests that the administration thinks it has something to hide. Abner Mikva, the White House counsel, met with Mr. Brown's attorncy but, oddly, did not press for a detailed explanation. Clearly, Mr. Mikva has a duty to dig harder for the facts, and the president has an obligation to come forward with a thorough public accounting.

Representative William Clinger Jr., Republican of Pennsylvania, began trying a year ago to get Mr. Brown to ex-plain some curious items on his financial disclosure statement. Mr. Brown, responding mostly through aides, has given inaccurate, incomplete and misleading answers. The central questions arise from his interest in a small investment and consulting business called First International Inc. and his complex transactions with his partner in the company, Nolanda Hill.

At the center of it all is a provocative mystery: How did Mr. Brown earn more than \$400,000 from the sale of his stake in the not-so-successful company, in which he says be invested no money and had little direct involvement?

He answers that it is not unusual for companies to pay prominent individuals for lending their names, prestige and advice to business ventures. But such spontaneous generosity by a small, troubled husiness does not seem commonplace at all. In any event, does Mr. Clinton believe оп из паше к

Another question is whether Mr. Brown complied with financial disclosure rules in reporting payments by Ms. Hill, supposedly as part of the sale of his interest in First International. She covered \$262,000 in personal debts for him and issued three checks of \$45,000 each from a separate and previously undisclosed company, First International Limited Partnership. Congressional investigators are intrigued by the timing of the checks, which were written months before Mr. Brown says he divested his interest, in December 1993.

There are other perplexing angles, most notably Mr. Brown's relationship with another company owned by Ms. Hill, Corridor Broadcasting Corporation. Mr. Brown, through a spokesman, firmly denied any business ties to Corridor, which cost taxpayers \$23 million when it defaulted on a loan held by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. But it turns out that Corridor and First International shared an office, and a promissory note from Corridor was First International's main asset. Mr. Brown asserts. implausibly, that be was unaware of these links to Corridor. Republican critics. meanwhile, ask whether the assets of Corridor were drained fraudulently or recklessly while the loan was in default, and whether Mr. Brown has any indirect

link to the FDIC losses. The Justice Department and the FDIC have opened their own inquiries. But that does not absolve the president from making an independent, public judgment about Mr. Brown's dealings. This, after all, is the administration that came to town promising that it would not tolerate smelly deals.

- THE NEW YORK TIMES.

The Iraqi Potential for Germ Warfare

WASHINGTON — With Iraq's nuclear and poison gas production capability limited by the scrutiny of United Nations inspectors, Saddam Hussein is developing the means to produce a terror weapon much harder to find: the deadly microorganisms of biological warfare.

Thirty quarts of cultures of cholera, tuberculosis and plague bacteria were found in the past few months. At the Sepp Institute in Methana, in underground storage at the Ghazi Research Institute in Amiria, at Salman-Pak and Al-Hakem, the fermentors, lyophilizers for freeze-drying and centrifuges for separation of bacteria are in place.

Hundreds of biologists are kept on Iraq's payroll awaiting orders from a woman named Rihab Rashid Taha Azawi.

Dr. Taha, 42, trained in toxicology in Britain, is known to some Iraqis as "Dr. Germs." Western intelligence agencies knew her as developer of Saddam's botulinum toxin stockpile in the 1980s, but she now says she is developing innocent vaccines. Even so, she regularly frustrates the four members of the UN Special Commission (Uns-

com) investigating germ warfare. Ambassador Rolf Ekeus of Sweden, who heads the commission, complains of foot-dragging. helated admissions about sites and deliberate withholding of facts about experiments on ani-mals. "It's like '1001 Nights," By William Safire

he told me at his UN office in New York before flying to Bagh-dad on Wednesday. "Their story changes every night. They admit only what we can prove.

Sources inside Iraq say that hidden equipment for growth of anthrax, botnlinum toxin and pasteurella, causative agent of the plague, includes 50-liter fermentors and sterile mixing tanks made by the Italian company Olsa, and 150-liter fermentors supplied in the '80s by the Swiss company Chemak.

Because anthrax spores resist re-entry heat, those are the germs of choice for use in missile warheads. Such terror war seems too horrible to contemplate. But Saddam readily reintroduced poison gas in the '80s, raining death on 5,000 Kurds in Halabja. Rod Barton, the Australian

who heads Unscom's bio-warfare section, notes that Russia only recently admitted that the 1979 anthrax outbreak in Sverdlovsk was caused by an accident at a hio-war plant at which more than 100 workers died.

Reluctant to confirm specifics about siles, Mr. Ekeus states unequivocally: "We face our greatest problems in accounting for Iraq's past and present hiological program.

Dr. Taha insists that her past military-financed research was purely to protect against disease, but the UNSCOM report of two months ago concluded that "the indications all point to

an offensive program." The UN commission thinks the Iragis are not now producing germs for delivery, but is certain that Saddam has the equipment, material and expertise on hand to begin production of biological warfare agents as soon as inspectors are thrown out. The facility in Dura now innocently producing hoof-andmouth vaccines is set up for immediate changeover to bio-

war production.

With such a capability at hand; with the will to use terror weaponry already demonstrated hy Saddam; with the meuns of production and delivery awaiting only oil income and a few months' secrecy - is this the moment to suspend the world's economic sanctions on Iraq? France, Russia and China

eager for business, think so. The

United States and Britain think not. Germany wavers.

To encourage Iraq to let his team stay, Mr. Ekeus's April report may cite some progress in inspections. A drumbeat of sto-ries will follow about how poor Iraqis are suffering from the de-nial of oil income. Don't fall for it. If the world lets heavy money flow to Baghdad while Saddam rules, at least one weapon of

mass destruction will soon be in the hands of a proven killer. The New York Times.

What Does NATO Propose to Be Doing South of the Mediterranean? ability to act independently of the

United Nations if necessary. The confrontation in Algeria is taking an increasing toll. External force may be considered essential to rescue foreign residents there, and perhaps to safeguard the supply of gas and oil to Europe.

Taken together, all this will bave an effect on governments in the countries contacted as well as on those left out, and simultaneously on the various opposition movements, whether violent or democratic. Their interpretation of the NATO move is likely to be far-reaching. The alliance will be understood to be aligning itself with one of the sides in the ongoing troubles, and further action will then be expected of it. The question that NATO

should ask itself is what action it is willing to undertake in support of stability in the region, and whether it is able to carry it out. Its peacekeeping record in the Yugoslav crisis — the first and only such activity - has come under considerable criticism. NATO has correctly pointed out that this is unjust, as it did in fact carry out all that was asked of it, and its hands were tied by United Nations rulings. But the world has seen intervention as a failure to assume a role that it considers to be one of its major functions in

the post-Cold War setting. This judgment is based on a

est present threat. In a recent profound misunderstanding of In the 45 years of its existence NATO has built up a highly effective multinational military mechanism with a political superstructure that can set it in motion almost immediately. But NATO is a fully democratic or-

> all its members so decide. The mechanism worked extremely well in the Yugoslav emergency, to the degree of action that had been agreed upon. What was lacking was the political will to go any further.

ganization, which can act only if

The consequent loss of credibility has undermined public support for NATO. If the alliance now intends to deal with another crisis, it should first be clear about the resources it has available for possible intervention and the will to carry it through.

Full prior agreement should be obtained that, if force is to be employed, members are prepared to commit it massively to ensure success. The political and economic consequences of a military success should also be envisaged. Finally, there should be complete clarity about the effect of

doom of the alliance. The writer is editor of NATO's Sixteen Nations, an independent military journal published in Brussels. He contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

another failure. It might spell the

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1895: Not For Children

NEW YORK - It is reported from Apia that a German firm in Samoa has been importing rifles and munitions from Germany, thereby enabling the rebels to oppose King Malietoa. The cases were labelled "Toys" and thus passed the Custom House.

1920: War Crime Trials

PARIS - As has been prophesied in diplomatic circles for several days, the German Government is to be entrusted with the trial of Germans charged with war crimes," although the Allied Governments have reserved the right, in view of this substantial modification of the spirit if not the letter of the Treaty of Versailles, to intervene at any time and correct the judgements of the German High Court at Leipzig by trial outside Germany. 1945: Manila Atrocities MANILA - In the final hour of their desperate defense of south

Manila, the Japanese are ma-

chine-gunning, bayoneting and sadistically butchering helpless civilians as they flee burning homes and attempt to cross into American lines. A trustworthy man escaped from Intramuros, the old walled city, with the news that the Japanese rounded up 5,000 civilians, herding them into San Agustin Church for two nights and a day with little food or water. The men were then separated from the crowd and taken to the prison at Fort Santiago. There a veiled mestizo identified 100 males who had been guerrillas. They were promptly bayoneted to death. The rest were locked into a building and the Japanese put a torch to it. Those who managed to climb out were shot, but a few escaped in the tall grass.

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OPINION/LETTERS

Moscow Must Understand A 'Cold Peace' Won't Do

By Flora Lewis

NEW YORK — The war still isn't over in Chechnya. But horrifying as it has been, it has demonstrated more dramatically than ever that the real problem is Russia.

What happens in Russia in the next couple of years will have a heavy and perhaps decisive impact on the kind of world we live in for at least the next generation. And the outlook right now is bad.

President Bill Clinton, at the urg-ing of Chancellor Helmut Kohl, finally got around to speaking on the telephone to President Boris Yeltsin to tell him how much the outrageous Chechnya war is undermining Russia abroad. But that's not enough. Western attachment to Mr. Yeltsin as the "only viable possibility" has become a burden not only for Russian democrats but also for Washington and the West.

The New York Times timidly suggested in an editorial ("About Yeltsin's Health," IHT, Feb. 15) that the secrecy about Mr. Yeltsin's evident physical problems looks too much like the Kremlin's traditional closed operation to be reassuring about de-mocracy and real leadership change. But this justified doubt also shows

how much of a mistake it is for the United States to be placing all its beis on one man in Moscow, The man hasn't changed, but his policy has. The reformers and democrats who rallied to him after the 1991 putsch in Moscow have almost all left him. His main backer now is Vladimir Zhirin-ovsky, the ultraright-wing national-

ist, authoritarian and anti-Semite.

Alexander Yakovlev, the intellectual sire of Mikhail Gorbachev's perestroika reforms, is devoted now to organizing a new party to be called Social Democracy because, he says, socialism is finished. He, like practically all the others who launched the reforms that destroyed communism, is deeply worried that Russia now is headed toward a new kind of fascist dictatorship.

Strange, and very nasty, things are going on in Moscow. David Remnick, in the Feb. 20-27 issue of The New Yorker, gives a vivid and accurate account of the ugly, frightening atmosphere. The new rich, or powerful, are sending their money and sometimes families abroad, buying real estate in the United States, the French Riviera, Cyprus

and elsewhere for safety's sake. A couple of years ago, Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev, who was under heavy attack for being too complecent toward the United States, made a speech in Stockholm

belligerently threatening the West, which he quickty explained was meant as a warning and a joke about what could happen. Now he says almost the same things and makes

clear it isn't a joke at all.

Friends of the United States in Russia are upset about what they call anti-Americanism in their country. This is not only stirred by the nationalists who profess to see a plot to keep Russia down, but also by a feeling of betrayal among democrats who say that Washington no longer seems to care about its principles

where Russia is concerned.

The key test is whether scheduled elections are properly prepared and held. Mr. Yakovlev is concentrating his political efforts in the provinces and the regions because, he says, "that's where the real power is" and that is where a healthier new generation of leaders is arising. But Mr. Yeltsin is now so unpopular, and so surrounded by corrupt, thuggish types, that there is widespread doubt will keep his promise of elections.

This is a time to develop "politi-cal deterrence." Mr. Yeltsin must be told that if he doesn't show he is organizing elections and go through with them, he will forfeit U.S. indulgence. Mr. Clinton must make that clear, as he grumhles about the war in Chechnya.

There is already a dispute about just what Mr. Yeltsin's role should be when the Group of Seven industrial states meet in Halifax this summer. He wan is to he treated as a fully equal partner. Even sooner, there is an issue about Russia's participation in the celebrations of the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II. There will be a ceremony in London on May 7, in Paris in the morning and Berlin in the afternoon of May 8 - the day the armistice was signed in Rheims — and in Moscow on May 9. Stalin refused to accept the May 8 armistice and insisted on a German capitulation to Soviet generals in Berlin Mey 9, the official day the war ended for Russians.

There should be smooth partnership to commemorate the victory when the West and the Soviets were allies. But it should be made clear that the West won't stand still for the "cold peace" Mr. Yeltsin threatened last November, as the Cold War followed the wartime alliance. It is vital not to isolate Russie now, and just as vital not to rely on Mr. Yeltsin. There are alternatives, but they must not be left to helpless intimidation because the West no longer cares.

D Flora Lewis.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Fear of Growth

Bravo for Guy Molyneux's thoughtful and provocative article ("When Productivity Is Up but Pny Isn't, Democratic Civility Is Down," Opinion, Feb. 15). He said what needs to be said; we are afraid and our fear saps our will.

Franklin Roosevelt saw this clearly in 1932: "The only thing which we have to fear is fear itself ... which paralyzes." Then, at least, the fear was of evident dangers that anyone could understand: unemployment, benkruptcy and foreclosure — failed banks and ruined lives. Now the fear is of the very growth that we once so avidly sought.

Our leaders have come to see growth and employment as incompatible with stable prices; when forced to choose, they choose unemployment every time, for they fear unemployment less than they fear inflation. After all, they are the ones who have the money; they don't want it to lose value. They may talk bravely about austerity, who do not have to worry about being thrown out onto the street when employment falls.

Mr. Molyneux was writing about the United States, but this strange phenomenon - fear of growth - is not limited to that country. I doubt whether there is an industrialized country in the world today where, after the required ritual wringing of hands over massive unemployment. the authorities do not then imple-ment "economically sound" policies: savings we could do something frivo-

the expense of employment. Not only do they admire their own courage for doing so, they also expect the world to admire them. And the world does.

Taking our text from William Jennings Bryan, we may well ask our-selves whether the hopes and aspirations of the great mass of mankind should be crucified on a cross of 'sound monetary and fiscal policy." JOHN E. RAY,

Fontenay-Trésigny, France.

Regarding "Just Let Newt & Ca. Go Private" by Arthur Miller (Opinion, Jan. 12):

Government by Laptop

I find Mr. Miller's suggestions for privatizing the U.S. Congress just a bit too conservative. Those laptop computers that Newt Gingrich wants to give out, and the whole information superhighway, will soon make government for the people and by the people a reality that the Founding Fathers never imagined.

We can save some real money hy sending the entire Congress, including Mr. Gingrich, on a final trip home. Using government-issue com-puters, we will all be able to bypass special-interest government and debate the issues ourselves from the comfort of our living rooms. No more salaries for politicians, no more benefits, junkets, lobbies, expensive build-

policies that strengthen currencies at lous like invest in health care, child care or the rebuilding of cities; we could clean up the environment, or invest in culture and education. of the ideas to come out of Washing-

> ton recently. Barcelona,

Boos for a Stage Set

Regarding "'Lucia' Returns to Paris" (Stage/Entertainment, Feb. 1):

I was very surprised that your opera critic, David Stevens, did not give us his personal appreciation of the Serhan-Dudley setting of the Opera Bastille's new "Lucia di Lammermoor." He hid behind the boos of the audience, saying this setting was not what Donizetti had in mind.

As an opera lover for over 35 years, I can state quite unequivocally that this is the worst opera stage set I have ever been forced to endure. In a week when a great deal of Auschwitz was seen on television, I consider I was cheated of the price of my seat hy being subjected to this concentration camp setting. The bunk beds were reminiscent of those unbearable death camps. At best we

The Opera Bastille is already in deep trouble, drifting without direc-tion. If it continues in this vein, it will find itself without an audience at all. DIANA BECKETT. Boulogne-sur-Seine, France.

Crazy? Not half as crazy as some

ARTHUR BERNSTEIN.

were in Grozny or Sarajevo.

Brave," opened there 50 years ago. Two of his musicals, "West Side Story" and "Gypsy," were signature works of Broadway's final golden era,

SEATTLE — Although even at home in New York he is not a

household name, there may be no

one alive who more embodies Broad-

way than the playwright Arthur Laurents. His first drama, "Home of the

MEANWHILE

the 1950s. Even his flops, from the

1991 "Nick and Nora," are legends.

That is why I wasn't surprised to hear that Mr. Laurents, now 77, is

behind an undercover effort to save

Broadway. And given Broadway's current inhospitality to new Ameri-

can dramas, it was also no surprise to

discover that I'd have to track him down 3,000 miles from Times Square.

He goes where the work is: the Seattle

Repertory Theater is giving his newest play, "Jolson Sings Again," the premiere that Broadway can no

longer muster.
The Jolson of his sardonic title is

Larry Parks, the actor who starred in Hollywood's "Al Jolson Story" and

later sang to a congressional commit-

tee, naming names during the Mc-Carthy-era witch-bunts.

not long after he wrote the movie

that dark past an alarming corre-

spondence to the America of today.

said after a matinee last weekend. There are still witch-hunts. Joycelyn

Elders was removed by a witch-hunt." Even as he spoke, headlines

told of Dr. Henry Foster, the nominee to replace Dr. Elders as U.S. surgeon general, being hammered by the far right with the McCarthyesque

question of whether he was now or

liberal, gay Mr. Laurents has no

shortage of causes. But the one that

consumes him most may be the lone-

liest and most quixotic of all - his

mission to raise the level of the cul-

ture itself by making Broadway, once

the birthplace of classics by Eugene

O'Neill and Tennessee Williams, safe

again for "the new American pley."

have ebendoned. "Carpival musi-

cals," as Mr. Laurents dismisses

them, have effectively made the New

York theater district indistinguish-

able from the rest of America's Dis-

It is a fight that many in the theater

At this time of cultural warfare, the

had ever been an abortionist.

People are afraid to speak out

and very leery of dissenting," he

"Rope" for Alfred Hitchcock, sees in

Mr. Laurents, hlacklisted himself

"Anyone Can Whistle" to the

A Great Playwright's Plot

For Revival of Broadway

By Frank Rich

neyfied cultural landscape, driving even a writer as mainstream as Neil Simon off-Broadway. Yet Mr. Laurents, working with his old friend and collaborator Stephen Sondheim, has come up with a scheme he thinks can

turn back the clock.

Starting with the indisputable premise that new American plays cannot fill the perennially dark houses on Broadway unless they are cheaper to produce and therefore cheaper for audiences to see, the two men have pooled their clout to pay unofficial visits to union leaders, theater owners and anyone else who has added to the

bloated costs. To each, the two men

ask: What financial sacrifices will you make to revive American drama? The months of small meetings are leading to a bigger one, an open forum at which all the Broadway constituencies will put their cuts on the table before the press. Why might this work? "Delicate blackmail," Mr. Laurents explained. The producer who won't lower ticket prices or the union that won't reduce featherbedding or the publication that refuses to lower ad rates will be publicly brand-ed a spoiler of the new American

pley's potential Broadway comeback. The shrewd timing for the forum is late May, just before negotiations with the stagehands union that many think will shut down Broadway in e strike. Mr. Laurents, undaunted, found the stagehands a particular cause for optimism: "Steve and I were ready to cry, they were so de-cent." Still, Mr. Laurents's next two plays are already committed to off-Broadway's Manhattan Theater Club and the Seattle Rep. Why should he bother to save Broadway at all? "New York is still the most im-

portant cultural center of the world," he answered. "And Broadwey is still the arena. Even if you fail there, you're noticed."

But Mr. Laurents, no less pugnacious now than when he took on the hlecklist, hardly intends to fail. In this embettled time for culture as in the past, he is an inspiring reminder that artists can fight, and sometimes even win,

The New York Times.

Letters intended for publication should be addressed "Letters to the Editor" and contain the writer's signature, name and full address. Letters should be brief and are subject to editing. We cannot be responsible for the return of unsolicited ma-

AMERICAN EMPRESS: The Life and Times of Marjorie Merriweather Post.

By Nancy Rubin. 445 pages. \$27.50. Villard.

Reviewed by Carolyn See THIS voluble, chatty, detail-filled story of the Post Toasties beiress is as accessible as a novel and full of "small world," "You don't say!" facts. Did we all know that Postum (the strange grain beverage some people drink instead of coffee) was invented by C. W. Post, Marjorie's dad and a cereal magnate, because the stuff he got at the Kellogg sanitarium wasn't to his liking? Did we know that C. W. Post, after he got over a bout of neurasthenia, actually wrote a pamphlet called "The Road to Wellville"?

This book answers another burning question: Which came first. Post Toasties or Grape-Nuts? And how come there's e frozen-food aisle in every supermarket? The answer to that one is that efter Merjorie Merriweather Post came into her fortune and was cruising with E. F. Hutton (her second hus-band) on their 350-foot yacht,

runs Le Monteverdi restaurant

same as taking a journey on the Trans-Siberian or the Orient Express." (John Brunton, JHT)



chusetts, and for some reason fresh food was hard to come by. But in Gloucester someone "named Clarence 'Bob' or 'Bugs' Birdseye . . . had been freezing food for years." Marjorie nagged

Marjorie's life was an Ameri-

but once there came into contact with Christian Science. He began to think positively, then he felt better, then he invented that Postum and those cereals. In less than two decades, Marjorie, who had licked Postum labels in the family barn, would be in finishing school. At the age of 27, when her father died, she be-came a fabulously wealthy heiress. The night before her wedding to her first husband, Mr. Close, she heard two women talking trash about her: "Well, she's a cute little thing considering who she is and where she's

even - and she did. loved opulence and beautiful clothes and dancing and cruising and parties. But she was earnest and altruistic. She slept eight hours a night, turning in punctually at 11 even from her own parties. She believed in fresh air and exercise and never lost her Midwestern twang. But was fond of saying that money of whole grain she spent the greater part of her life turning he was right. can royalty. She and Hutton were a new-rich couple in the

from." She lived her life to get

al of materialistic hliss and then stuck to that dream forever. The author makes much of later Marjorie Post would have been a genuine tycoon, but dur-

ing the time slots in which she lived she was only allowed to be wife, mother, hostess, philanthropist. She seems to have given these roles her best shot. Her third husband, Joseph Davies, was appointed the second U.S. amhassador to the Soviet Union in the late '30s. She gave great state dinners and brought American cream and vegetables with her and tried not to get distressed hy Stalin's purges.
She also bought e fortune's worth of czarist antiquities, and she and her husband got their story told in a movie, "Mission to Moscow," Fun! But she dumped Davies when he got cranky, married again (to a man who happened to be gay), had several nice beaux and - if the author is telling the whole truth - had remarkably stable and affectionete relationships with her children and grandchildren.

I've left out at least half the book, which is an inventory of Marjorie's estates, gowns, garven — and she did. dens, furnishings, palaces and
She was so American! She
resort homes, which some people will read with avid interest but which only fills me with a resentment about my blameless dad. who spent most of his time pick-ing up World War II showgirls when he could have been out in the barn simmering barley or wheat and molasses, My dad with all that propriety and love wasn't everything. This book

Mail or lax to: International Herald Tribune

Carolyn See reviews books Roaring Twenties and, like regularly for The Washington

BOOKS

WHAT THEY'RE READING

 Claudio Monteverdi, who in Paris, is reading "The Great Trains," edited by Brian Mor-

"I am passionate ahout trains. Reading this book is the



Hntton to buy out Birdseye, but he waited too long and didn't make the profit be might have. He began to sulk and dumped Marjorie. (What had happened to her first husband? She dumped him, and he went on to marry again and become the grandfather of Glenn Close.)

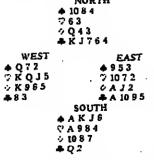
can exemplum. Her father had no particular assets in the mid-19th century except a wife, a they were served an exceptional-ly fine goose. They were an-chored off Gloucester, Massa-michigan, to try Kellogg's cure

BRIDGE

By Alan Truscott

O N the diagramed deel North made use of a nega-tive double. This landed South in two spades. West led the heart king and

won, shifting to the club eight. South put up dummy's king. East took the ace and shifted to a trump, won with the ace in the closed hand, South cashed the



West Pass 2 T

West led the heart king.

heart ace, ruffed a heart, and returned to his hand with a club to the queen reaching this end-

NORTH • 18 Ç— ♦AJ2 SOUTH

South ruffed his heart nine with the spade ten, and East had to make a discard. A club discard would heve been an error, so he underruffed.

South led the cluh jack from dummy and threw e diamond. West ruffed and shifted to a diamond. East was able to win with the diamond jack, cash the diamond ace and lead the club that he had preserved. This promoted his partner's spade queen as the setting trick.

Gatsby, they envisioned an ide- Past.

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In India, Discovering A Region's Flavors

By Ismail Merchant

HAJRAHO, India - In the volumes that have been written about the regional food of India, Madhya Pradesh in central India remains mysteriously absent. So when, in 1987, some sequences of my film The Deceivers" were shot in and around Rajgarh, Panna and Khajraho, it seemed a good opportunity to find out more about the food.

I had traveled to Madhya Pradesh many times before. I had been to the kingdom of Rewa where white tigers are bred; to Panna and its huge Palladianstyle Rajgarh Palace; to Orchha where I stayed in a medieval palace built on a bluff by the river. I had visited the magnificent fort (one of the largest in India) at Gwalior; the Art Deco palace at Indore; the marble chattries (cenotaphs) at Shivpuri that integrate so gracefully the styles of Hindu and Islamic architecture; and the fairy-tale city of Mandu where the poet-prince Baz Bahadur serenaded his beautiful consort Rani Roopmati.

In restaurants, I would sometimes come across dishes I had never encountered in India before. At the Sheesh Mahal in Orchha I vividly remember chicken roasted in an intense tomato sauce until the sauce was completely dry and the flesh had absorbed all its flavors. At Indore I discovered Sabudana Kicheri, a dish of sago fried with peanuts, potatoes and chilies, which was served at every dhaba (food stand) and restaurant. So the prospect of several weeks in Khajraho, and the possibility of further discoveries, was an exciting one.

As soon as the plane landed in Khaj-raho, the whole film unit headed directly for the Hindu temples. This enthusiasm was motivated less by cultural nr spiritual zeal than by prurience, for the thousand-year-old temples are known for their wildly explicit erotic sculptures.

My own immediate target was carnal pleasures of a more prosaic kind - lunch at the Raja Cafe, which is just opposite the Western Temples, the group that includes Kandariya Mahadeo, the largest and most profane. People emerge from it dazzled and dazed and, surely, full of sensual feelings. But the chances of maintaining that mood over a meal were slim. The town was a gastronomic wilderness.

Although eating at the Raja Café amounted to playing Russian roulette with our digestive systems, we were irresistibly drawn there. Run by Betty and Joy Judah, two German sisters who, with Betty's husband Gil, a Swiss, are Khajraho's only permanent foreign residents, the cafe is the pulse of the town. Gossip is ex-changed, local news broadcast and princes sit with bandits.

The mainstay of the Raja's kitchen seemed to be spaghetti served with a fiery curry sauce of unknown provenance and even the quality of that simple disb depended on the mood of the chef.

Yet when the chef was in the right frame of mind he was capable of producing simple masterpieces — featherlight om-elets delicately laced with tiny pieces of chili, and a range of fragrant breads and aromatic rice dishes. He also had a number of specialties -- pancakes chicken bechamel (pancakes wrapped around shredded chicken in a creamy sauce), paratha with cheese and tomatoes (deep fried paratha bread stuffed with cheese and tomato), which was like a rather grand pizza,

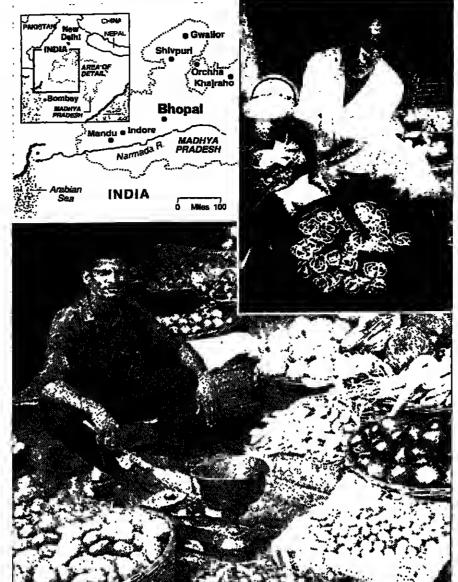
and ice cream-filled pancakes. The Raja Cafe is still there and still in the same hands — a feature of Khajraho nearly as enduring as its temples. The experience of that unique cuisine did not discourage me from returning to Madhya Pradesh last year to direct my first film, "In Custody." It required a predominantly Muslim city, and Bhopal, the state capital of Madhya Pradesh, is one of the few left in India. Bhopal is still recovering from the devastation caused by the blanket of lethal gas that escaped from a Union Carbide pesticide plant II years ago, and has a melancholy, neglected beauty that mirrored exactly the mood of loss in my film. In the 14th century the Moguls were so captivated by the beauty of this place that they developed it as a center for artists and musicians, and those traditions live on. As does the tradition of fine food — and hospitality — which in Muslim culture are inseparable.

HOPAL has the highest concentration of mosques (including a mique Art Deco mosque) of any Indian city. An extraordinary place that should be better known to travelers, for most it is just a stopover on the way to Sanchi, 50 kilometers away. One can almost inhale the spiritual quality of the

One of our principal locations was the home of the writer Fazal Tabish. Each morning Fazal's wife, Tahira, would greet the cast and crew with piles of freshly made parathas — flat disks of very rich bread, flaky and crisp on the outside, soft and chewy inside, like the best croissants. Sometimes she would add tiny black mustard seeds to the dough, and always there would be a thick tomato paste on the side.

Often the Tabishes would invite me to oin them for lunch or dinner, when Tahira would prepare ber family recipes, which in India are handed down from generation to generation. We ate eggplant baked in sesame oil and yogurt with fresh coriander and sesame seeds (a disb that seemed Persian in origin); lambs brains fried in butter with garlic and black pepper; nahari — a Bhopali specialty of lamb shanks slowly stewed with spiced lentils.

Except for the large cosmopolitan cities, there is no restaurant culture in India, Most restaurants are run by Punjabis and serve mediocre pan-Indian food with no regional distinctions. The roadside dhabas, however, though Spartan and unpretentious, are more likely to offer "home style" cooking



Making sweets in Bhopal, top, and a vegatable market in Orchha.

- chunky shami and kebabs served with roomali roti ("handkerchief" bread, because it must be as thin as a handkerchief), spicy dals (pulse or lentils), vegetable cur-ries and even complicated biryanis (spiced rice cooked with meat or chicken).

RARE exception is the Garden Barbecue Restaurant of the Jehan Numa Palace Hotel in the Shamla Hills overlooking Bhopal. In the courtyard of the hotel gardens, a gifted chef prepares food of the highest refinement: huge koftas — minced lamb patties stuffed with mint and cashew nuts. either flame grilled or stewed in a rich tomato sauce; kebabs of lamb with almonds, pistachios and mint; and tandoori chicken, marinated for 24 hours in lemon juice, ginger, garlic, turmeric, red chilies and yogurt, which perfumes the flesh with great subtlety and gives it a melting tex-

Expert marinating was a feature of the cuisine at the Garden Barbecue. Smoked mutton tikka, for example, involved marinating the mutton in two separate preparations before barbecuing. Another, jal pari kebab (cubed barbecued fish), used a marinade of yogurt and ajwain — a seed with a strong flavor similar to thyme or lovage. Chicken chooza kebabs were marinated with egg, grated cheese and cashewnut paste. Even the simple tangadi kebabs (barbecued chicken drumsticks) were marinated in spicy yogurt before cooking.

Since ancient times, travelers crossing the country would have to make their journey through this territory, traditionally taking with them their own cooks and ingredients. These elements left their mark, and eventually produced a cuisine that is both derivative and highly original, and one unlikely to be encountered anywhere else in India. The food of Madhya Pradesh is just a bonus that makes all the extraordinary attractions of this place even more pleasurable.

Ismail Merchant, the film producer, wrote this for The New York Times.

Travel for the Senses, "Holli's By Canal in Burgundy

By Kay Eldredge

ENAREY, France - The great thing about a week on the French canals is that it's abso-There's a seductive sense of being at the heart of things, probably due to the pace, or lack of it, along with the painterly beauty of the landscape and canal itself. Days are measured by locks, villages and thoughts of meals thoughts of meals. The boats are comfortable, if a bit con-

fining, and come equipped with every-thing but towels and food. You do the driving and provide for your own meals on board or off, which is no burden given the quality of the local produce and wine, not to mention the restaurants. Single beds on board are a mere two feet (60 centimeters) wide, so an adult might re-quire a double all to himself, but even without the maximum number of passengers, the price breaks down to a reasonable \$50 a day or less per person.

A number of companies rent boats on the canals, but we had taken a Connois-

seur Cruiser on a previous trip and were so satisfied that we booked with them again.

We chose a week in late September and decided on a one-way trip on the Canal de Bourgogne, starting near Joigny and end-ing I20 kilometers (75 miles) to the south-

east at Venarey, just past Montbard.
At check-in time we stowed our gear and reviewed the operation of the boat with an expert. Learning the ropes, quite literally, for both boat and locks takes only half and bour of instruction, even with no experience.

Our crew consisted of my husband, myself, our 9-year-old son, my stepmother, and my father, a boating enthusiast. Although he had never been on the canals, it seemed only right that he be honorary captain. A more crucial decision is who is going in the first place. The quarters are too close for incompatibility. We've found canaling a particular paradise for a kid old enough to help out without falling in. Our son loved working the locks and, naturally, the thrill of a turn at the helm.

Days settle into a satisfying rhythm: The boat tied up, one walks into a village for bread in the morning and breakfasts on the boat, setting sail about 9, then lunching on deck after walking into town while the locks close for an hour at noon. After mooring in the late afternoon, there's either a simple dinner on board or a stroll into town for something more

Weather is never predictable, but we had lucked into a perfect autumn week and it was beautiful being outdoors working the locks, which appeared every two or three kilometers. A detailed map is provided, showing not only every lock and village, but almost every building and cop-pice, along with a description of each town, so it's easy to decide where to moor for a couple of hours to explore a few of the many possible detours along the way.

We wandered Saint-Florentin's maze of streets, admiring the many timbered buildings. We spent a morning in Ton-nerre, first at the Ancien Hôtel, built in 1293 with an exceptional vaulted oak ceiling, then at the Fosse Dionne, a huge stone basin from Roman times, fed by a spring and encircled by stunning old houses. Another highlight was the 12th-century Abbaye de Fontenay, a short taxi ride from the canal at Montbard. The grounds and buildings bave been classified as a world patrimony by Unesco. And along the way we did not neglect the claborate châteaux of Ancy-le-Franc, Tanlay and Bussy-le-Grand, all with tours

The region, of course, is famous for its cuisine. We skipped celebrated restaurants in Saint-Florentin and Tonnerre, but had an elegant, spur-of-the-moment lunch at the L'Hostellerie du Centre, in Ancy-le-Franc, and a memorable dinner on the enclosed terrace over the Armance River at the Auberge de l'Armance in Saint-Florentin.

And many irresistible things to eat can be purchased at the locks: strawberries, cherries and new lettuce in the spring, walnuts, preserves and honey in the fall. And always there is wine.

Possible excesses can be worked off by jogging the ever-present tow path. There should be no problem making it to the next lock before the boat. We also rode small dirt bikes, which are available from the boat companies for a small fee, both along the path and into nearby towns.

UBLIME final afternoon. Yellow leaves drifting down onto the deck. Hazy late September light filtering through the allee of trees lining the canal, falling on a heron competing for his catch with a dozing fisherman on the bank. A classic picnic on the roof deek: baguettes with goat cheese and Camembert, late garden tomatoes, cool Burgundy Aligoté, white wine produced from vineyards we'd probably passed. Afterward, a nap in the sun. Finally, reluctantly, we headed for Venarey.

After turning in our boat, my father commented wistfully, "The hardest part of the trip was when I pulled into the boatyard and beard the dock manager call Cut your engine,' and I knew it was over."

In a week we had gone a distance that could have been driven in an hour, but such voyages as these are not measured in

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Kay Eldredge is an American writer who has lived and traveled in France.

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THE MOFIE GUIDE

Directed by Abbas Kiarostami. Iran. Abbas Kiarostami, Iran's lyr-

ic realist, rides the thin line between fiction and docu-mentary. Part of a triptych, this chronicle of village life after an earthquake is more than meets the eye: It takes us behind the scenes of a movie being made in a remote village. The action opens on the recruiting of

high school girls. The camera travels by car, along with the director, bumping through the countryside, stopping to pick up cast members and props. One girl insists on wearing a magnificent dress instead of a peasant dress for ber part - she is an actress now. There are glimpses of ruins and wrecked lives. Once on location, pieces from this disparate world fall into place, and the focus is on a trompe l'ocil set, the house

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within the film. The scene being shot is between Hossein (Hossein Rezai) and Tahereh (Tahereh Ladania), who are playing out their own drama off camera: Hossein, a bricklayer (who had a bit part in the previous film), is in love with Tahereh, the stubborn young student. Her family has rejected him because he is illiterate, but, he pleads, be will be a perfect husband he will wait on his wife, encourage ber studies. To prove

Through the Olive | players among a bunch of | of newlyweds, and on a film | his point, he serves tea to the | thought had wronged him. crew, he bares his soul; Taherch remains silent. The director glides the focus to the heart of the matter; a discreet camera follows Hossein pursuing his impossible love through the olive trees. Kiarostami's elegant film touches on the tremors in bidden lives. (Joan Dupont, IHT)

Siete Mil Dias Juntos Directed by Fernando Fernán-Gómez. Spain. Talk about foreshadowing!

The only suspense here is

whether you can guess the plot entirely, or just most of it. The director attempts to combine a thriller and black humor, but the jokes fall as lifeless as the cadavers that parade across the screen. The result is unexciting, despite having a crew with some of the most talented people in Spanish cinema today. The problem is a lack of plausibility. While it's easy to believe that the main couple fights bitterly after 20 years of marriage — or just over 7,000 (siete mil) days together it's not credible that they were ever happy, as is suggested. The best moments in the film are the well-acted fight scenes, involving the husband (José Sacristán) and the wife (Pilar Bardem). Maria Barranco is vivacious as the young single mother who woos away the husband. But most of the scenes are far-fetched, like the embarrassing home video that spoils an anniversary party, or the attempts to cover up a certain crime. Director Fernando Fernán-Gómez is a first-rate actor but he lost vision here behind the camera. Nor was he helped by the script, which

(Al Goodman, IHT) Murder in the First Directed by Marc Rocco.

"Murder in the First" is the semi-true story of Henri Young, who in March 1938 was placed in solitary confinement in an underground vault at Alcatraz and remained thus cruelly confined for more than three years. Released into the prison population and suffering the mind-altering effects of his ordeal, he killed a man he

Was Henri Young responsible for his own actions after suffering such duress? Was he murderer or victim? The conventions of courtroom drama provide an easy answer to that question, just as they provide James Stamphill (Christian Slater), the idealistic young attorney who takes the case of Henri Young (Kovin Bacon). While Rocco tells the story confidently and clicits sturdy performances from his actors, he falls into a



Slater and Bacon in "Murder in the First."

directorial trap or two. Striving for a more grandiose tone, he loads on inspirational music and indulges in enough mobile camerawork to make the head spin. None of this really disguises the fact that this courtroom drama unfolds in expected ways. "Murder in the First" stakes its claim to toughness with a grueling first half hour, which details Young's suffering in solitary confinement and at the hands of a sadistic warden (Gary Oldman, working menacingly in his American mode). Bacon tries mightily to capture Young's physical nightmare, and he makes these sequences convincing. But he can't dispel the thought that the film lacks some essential grit. Rocco lets the film's ending drag on in search of an inspirational note, which proves elusive. A movie marquee glimpsed during the story shows a Frank Capra ritle, redolent of a crusading clarity that "Murder in the First" never

(Janet Maslin, NYT)

By Roger Collis

HE military maxim "Time spent io reconnaissaoce is oever wast-ed" is sound advice for today's road warriors --- especially when traveling to daunting or unfamiliar destinations. Travel should come down to careful planning and attention to detail. Ai-

ways expect the unexpected.

There are two kinds of travel guides: those thet help you plan your trip and how to travel and those that show you how to survive and enjoy when you arrive. The trick is to build your own data base from several guides (not all are best for every destination) in order to get the right mix of

background, insights and updates. TIM (Travel Information Manual) is an essential source book for the frequent traveler. It is an austere 380-page trade lexicon of official requirements, procedures and restrictions for entering (and leaving) more than 250 countries, published every month in the Netherlands. The book provides exhaustive detail on immigration rules, passports, visas, health certificates, customs and currency rules for all nacionalities. (TIM, PO Box 902, NL-2130 EA Hoofddorp. Netherlands. Tel: (31) 2503 73525; Fax: (31) 2503 73515)

The best way to plan your own flights is to subscribe to a hard copy or electronic edition of an ABC or OAG guide.

ABC/OAG Desktop Flight Guides are published monthly io Worldwide and North American editions. The monthly OAG Pocket Flight Guide comes in four editioos: Europe/Africa/Middle East, North America, Latin America/Caribbean and Asia/Pacific. They all show lights are resistant to resistant and the resistant of the re

flights to major cities in other regions.

OAG Travel Service — the on-line version for personal computers — lists more than 2 million flights and a million fares from 700 airlines. Fares are updated daily and schedules are refreshed weekly. You can eheck evailability of airline seats or hotel rooms and in some countries make

reservations yourself. The system is user-friendly. You tell the computer where you are, where you want to go and roughly when. You can move back

and forth between fares and schedules. OAG Flight Disk (Premier World Edition), updated monthly with a oew disk, gives you access to every domestic and international flight. You can search for flights by departure or arrival times, request "preferred airlines" and use e split-

screen to work out your own flight coo-

nections. You can put in your own information: meetings, phooe numbers, where you're staying, and then print a customized schedule. (OAG: (44) 1582 695 050 or fax (44) 1582 695 049)

When it comes to specific cities, I rec-

ommend the Insight Cityguide series. These are colorful 250- to 300-page books packed with evocative photographs. They are sketchy on hard travel data and ooi always up-to-date, but are excellent back-

The Frequent Traveler

ground reading on people, politics, history, culture, cuisine and sight-seeing. So far, there are 49 utiles (Insight publishes nearly 300 titles, mainly country guides) -21 cives in Europe plus numerous oth ers. The 30 to 40 pages of "Travel Tips" at the back of each book might be worth

tearing out and taking with you.

Most of these cities are covered by the smaller, more compact, Insight Pocket Guide series, which focus more on pracucal advice in getting around, with recom-mendations for sight-seeing, hotels, restaurants and shops.

Lonely Planet guides, with more than 150 titles, have been a byword among backpackers and budget travelers since they first appeared 20 years ago. But they are e valuable source of accurate, no-oonsense informatioo for busioess as well. Lonely Planet's Arah Gulf States "travel survival kit" is the best guide to the regioo you can find. New titles include Japan, Northeast Asia, Southeast Asia, Hong Kong and Macau, and Canton.

The problem with most guides is that they cover the beaten track, but stop short on how to cope io more daunting destinations. You oeed an inside track --- oot only how to enjoy, but how to survive.

This is the aim of Inside Tracks, e "destination data base" consisting of con-

HEAR THIS

Despite an increase in miracles, an upward trend in cults and conspiracies and the discovery of new animal species, 1994 was not as strange as the previous year -in fact, 2 percent less strange, according to the Fortean Times, a journal of odd phenomena. But then 1993 was e very weird year.

cise guides to 66 cittes. Each guide runs to nine pages with maps, but no ads or pic-tures. Along with more predictable places, destination include such artist places as destinations include such gritty places as Accra, Addis Ababa, Algiers, Asunción, Cairo, Dakar, Dar es Salaam, Harare, Lagos, Libreville, Lusaka and Managua.

What makes Inside Tracks especially useful is that reports are written by a network of local correspondents and are updated every six months. Correspondents range from diplomats and doctors

the politicians and business people.

The guides start by summarizing the place's appeal (or lack thereof): Getting Along is about the mood and way of life; Getting Around covers practical points such as airport procedures, taxi touts and cost of transport; Getting Going is the place itself, what is best to see and avoid; Good Hotels, brief descriptions of up to 12; Good Food, ootes on local cuisine and a few spots where you will find it; Good Nights, with emphasis on the local scene; Nights, with emphasis on the local scene; Good Shopping, from stores to local markets; Good Timing, what to expect whenever you come. Reports are short on fantasy and long on facts.

Each guide costs £3 (\$4.65), plus postage per order of 50 pence airmail in Europe, £1 elsewhere, from Inside Tracks, 10 Hartswood Road London W129 NO: tel/

Hartswood Road, London W129 NQ: tel/ fax: (44) 81 749 0748).

HE guides that complement all others are The Rough Guides. with oearly 100 titles hut only 11 city editions. The guides are only "rough" when it comes to paper and be-cause they are aimed at the hudget traveler. But they are oo less sophisticated. The books are light and easy to pack and are full with an eclectic mix of culture, conventioo and "low life." You'll find nooonsense sections on music and dance, theater and museums along with guides to street markets, bars, cafés and night spots,

street markets, bars, cafes and night spots, ouggets of history and politics.

A oew generation of digital mapping programs emerging in the United States allows you to plan your trip by computer. A good way to start is with Global Explorer (\$69 on CD-ROM for Windows) from DeLome Mapping, Lower Main St., Box 298, Freeport, ME 04032, Fax: (207) 865 9291. This enables you to explore the 9291. This enables you to explore the streets of 100 cities with the help of indexed references to more than 120,000 places shown on topographic maps. The maps enable you to zoom in and out through 15 levels of magnification.

With software like this, you may become a state-of-the-art armchair traveler.

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Although the IHT carefully checks these offers, please be forewerned that some travel agents may be unawere of them, or unable to book them

New York

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AUSTRIA

Vienna Kunsti-lausWien, tet: (1),712-0495, open deily. To April 30: "Jean Dubuttet: Eine Retrospektive." 140 peinings, sculptures, drawings and collages covering the years 1919 to 1985.

Antwerp
Musee des Beaux-Arts, tel: (3)
238-7809, closed Mondays. To Feb.
28: "Ernst Bartach." A retrospective of the works of the German sculptor who was associated with Expression-ism. Includes works reflecting his sojourn to Russia and his experience in

BRITAIN

London Dulwich Picture Gallery, tel: (181) 693-8000, closed Mondays. To April 30: "Poussin: Works on Paper." More than 50 drawings spanning Poussin's career, including his early work in Paris, his maturity in Rome and the decrease drawings of the and the rigorous drawings of the

1640s onward.

Museum of Mankind, tel: (71) 323-8525, open daily. To Dec. 10: "The Ainu of Japan." A collection of approximately 130 objects from the lata 19th and early 20th centuries documenting the life of the minority living in the northern island of Hokkaldo.

Royal Academy of Are tel: (71) n me normem island of reacebook.
Royal Academy of Arts, tel: (71)
494-5615, open daily. Continuing/To April 9: "Nicolas Poussin."
More than 80 paintings by the 17thcentury Franch painter. Poussin
draw his subject matter from biblical. drew his subject matter from biblical historical or mythological sources, historical or mythological sources. Related exhibitions are organized at the Wallace Collection, tha Dulwich leaves and the National Gallery and the National Gallery.

Tha Whitworth Art Gallery, tel: (61) 273-4865, closed Sundays. To April 17: "Master Drawings from the National Portrait Gallery." More than 100 portraits, watercolors, sketches and carlcatures demonstrate the role of drawing in British portraiture. Inof drawing in British portraiture. In-cludes works by Hilliard, Gainsbor-ough, Millais, Sargent and Kitaj.

CANADA

Quebec
Musée du Québec, tel: (41a) 6463330, closed Mondays. To May 14:
"L'Art Québécois de L'Estampe:
1950-1990." Bears witness to tha development of the art of printmaking in
Québec. Illustrates, through major
contemporary art movements (Surrealism, Abstract art, Pop art, Op art,
Hyper Realism, etc.), the main creative manifestations which have
marked Québec art.

FRANCE

Centre Culturel de Boulogne-Bilancourt, tel: (1) 47-12-77-95, closed Sundays. To May 13: "Mortagnards des Pays d'indochine." More than 300 items documenting unus of life and culture in the mounways of life and culture in the mountains, valleys and plateaux of tormer indochina.

indochina.

Musée Cernuschi, tel. (1) 45-63-50-75, closed Mondays. To May 14:

"Japon, Saveurs et Serentie: La Ceremone du The dans les Collections du Musée des Arts Idemitsu." An exhibition of utensils used in traditional tes ceremonies, including Chinese and Japanese ceramic tea bowls, eske curs and flower vases. sake cups and flower vases.

sake cups and flower vases.

Musee d'Orsay, tel: (1) 40-49-4814, closad Mondays. Continuing/To April 30: "Whistler, 18341903." Features 66 paintings,
including "The Little White Girl" and
"Portrail of the Arbsi's Mother," 100
drawnoss, engravings and watercoldrawings, engravings and watercol-



Barbara Hepworth's sculpture, in Connecticut.

National Museum of Modern Art, Validation of the control of the con

by the Japanese sculptor.
National Museum of Western Art, tel: (3) 3828-5131, closed Mondays.

To March 5: "German Prints During the Reformation." Includes works by

Musée National d'Histoire et d'Art, tel: 479-330-214, closed Mondays.
To Feb. 26: "J.M.W. Turner: Views of Luxembourg." Approximately 20 watercolors created after Turner's visit

lonization process of this country.

Dorer and Cranach.

LUXEMBOURG

to Luxembourg in 1839.

METHERLANDS

ors, as well as 20 pastels by the list's fascination with contemporary urban situations. The display re-volves around an installation titled "Men in the Cities." GERMANY

Amerika Haus, tel: (30) 310.00.10, open daily. To March 14: "Dennis Stock Made in USA." A view of the American way of life by this photographer who acceded to fame in the carty. 1950s while working the early 1950s while working for the Magnum Photo Agency. The exhibit displays black-end-whita photo-graphs of state fairs, mobile home retirement communities, and hitch-

retirement communities, and hitch-hking hippies.
Kunstbibliothak, tal: (30) 266-2028, closed Saturdays and Sun-days. To March 3: "Reiseskizzen des Architektan Friedrich August Stoler." 150 sketches from Stoler a travels. it includes works from the Kunstbib-liothek, Berlin, the Prussian Castle Foundation, and the Garten Berlin-Brandenburg. Neue Nationalgalerie, tel: (30) 266-26-53. closed Mondays. Continu-

26-53, closed Mondays. Continu-ing/To April 17: "George Grosz: Berlin-New York." A retrospective of Berlin-New York." A retrospective of 50 paintings and 250 works on paper. Grosz was a founding member of the Dada group in Berlin in the 1920s. His works depict lifa in his native Berlin and in his adopted second home, New York. The exhibition will travel to Dosseldorf.

I cickyo
Isetan Museum, tel: (3) 33-52-1111, closad Wednesdays, To Feb. 27:
"Robert Longo." This exhibit, dedicated to a colleague and contemporary of Cindy Sherman and Charle Cloub. Is representative of the art. Clough, is representative of the artSWEDEN Nationalmuseum, tel: (8) 666-

15th to the 18th century ara by Juan Guas, Gaspar Becerra, Juan de Juanes, and Ribera, among others.

4250, closed Mondays. To May 1: "Stilleben." A selection of works by still life artists from the mid-16th cen-Themish "vanitas," kitchen scenes by Zurbaran, "natures mortes" by Chardin and 20th-century still lifes by Morandi, Braqua and Pleasso. among others.

SWITZERLAND

Musée d'Art Contamporain, 1e Musee d'Art Contamporant, les. (21) 729-91-46, closed Mondays. To May 15: "Benetton par Toscani." Presents the various media supporting Benetton's advertising camaigns including billboards and cata-

UNITED STATES

Chicago The Art Institute, tel: (312) 443-3600, open daily. Feb. 18 to May 28: "Gustave Caillebotte: Urban Impressionist." A commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the painter's death, with 89 paintings and 28 works on paper.

New Haven, Connecticut Yale Center for British Art, tel: (203) 432-2850, closed Mondays. To April 9: "Barbera Hepworth." More than 70 carvings and bronzes and 30 drawings spanning nearly 50 years of the British sculptor's career. Barbara Hepworth, 1ogether with Henry Moore and Ben Nicholson, brought international recognition to British sculpture. The exhibition will travel to Toronto.

Metropolitan Museum of Art, tel: (212) 570-3791, closed Mondays. To May 14: "R. B. Kital: A Retrospective." 100 works by the American artist who lived and worked in London for more than three decades. Themes refer to Kitai's years as a merchant seaman, to the history of film, and to the recognition of the artist's Jewish heritage. The exhibition will travel to Los Angeles. Coinciding with the Metropolitan retrospective, Mariborough Gallery will be exhibiting recent works until Merch 4. The New Museum, tel: (212) 219-1222, closed Mondeys and Tues-days. To April 9: "Andres Serrano: Works 1983-1993." Features 50 large-scale photographs, including the early allegorical tableaux, the "bodily fluid" series of abstract compositions; the "Morgue" series of hu-man cadavers; and a selection from the "Objects of Desire" series.

CLOSING \$00 F

Museum voor Vokenkunde, tel: (10)-411-2201, closed Mondays. To May 28: "The Emergence of Indonesia: Photographs by Cas Oorthuys and Charles Breijer." As Indonesia celebrates the 50th anniversary of its independence, a display of 80 photographs, taken in Indonesia between 1947 and 1949, which reflect the decolorization process of this country. To Feb. 19: "Street Style: From Side-walk to Catwalk, 1940 to Tomorrow." Victoria & Albert Museum, London. On Feb. 19: "Space, Time and Mem-ory: Photography and Beyond in Je-pan." Hara Museum of Contemporay Art, Tokyo.
On Feb. 20: "Kurt Schwitters." Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris.
On Feb. 19: "The Collection of Bolesiaw and Lina Nawrocki." The National Microstra Museo dei Prado, tel: (1) 420-28-36, closed Mondays. To April 30: To celebrate its 175th anniversary, the Prado displays a range of Spanish drawings selected from its own col-lections. Drawings dating from the tional Museum, Warsaw. On Feb. 19: "Herbert Zangs: Oeu vres 1952-1959," Fondation Cartler pour l'Art Contemporain, Parls. On Feb. 20: "Countdown to Eterni-

ty." Corcoran Gallery, Washington.

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Source: TVIVA Survey 292 193 . Reader Survey 194.

Rabin Also Seeks to Create Jobs in Territories

By Clyde Haberman

JERUSALEM - In an attempt to revive stalled Middle East peace talks, Israel agreed Thursday to loosen border restrictions that have kept many thousands of Palestinians out of work, and said it was ready for "intense negotiations" with the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The Israelis announced that starting next week they would allow 10,000 laborers from the Gaza Strip and 5,000 from the West Bank to return to jobs that they had held in Israel until the borders were shut last month, after a Palestinian suicide bombing that killed 21 Israelis.

The numbers were far smaller than the 50,000 or more Palestinians who entered Israel each day

before the bombing.
But easing the entry han, if only by a little, was the top priority for Yasser Arafat, the PLO leader, and he left a meeting Thursday with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rahin at Gaza's northern edge having accomplished something. In addition, Mr. Rahin said be was ready to

immediately set up at least five industrial parks inside the territories, to create jobs for Palestinians as substitutes for work in Israel.

"If the problem there isn't solved, there will be distress, unemployment and even hunger, and this can create problems that will influence secu-

rity," the Israeli prime minister sau.

Mr. Rabin also said he had suggested that the Palestinians rapidly expand their self-rule authority by taking over the town of Jenin, in the northern tier of the West Bank. The Palestinian Authority led by Mr. Arafat now controls only Gaza and the small West Bank district of

But the prime minister was prepared to put the Palestinians in charge only of municipal services and economic affairs, keeping security in Israeli hands. Israel's armed forces would stay in Jenin as well as in the rest of the West Bank besides

From Mr. Arafat's vantage, it was a had deal. Since his aim is to get the Israeli Army out and to hold Palestinian elections, he did not show "a great deal of enthusiasm" for the proposal, as an

Israeli official put it.
The Palestinian leader's reaction suggested that the two sides still have a long way to go before coming to terms on the basic issue in extending Palestinian self-rule: bow to solve the complex problem of moving Israeli soldiers in the West Bank.

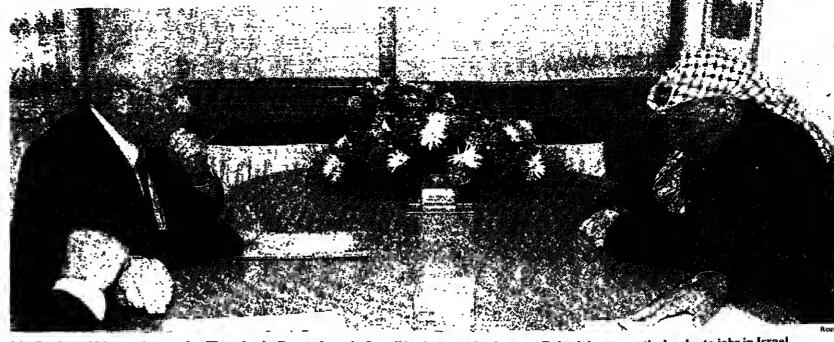
Jewish settlements and Arah towns stand explosively cheek by jowl in many places, and a series of Islamic suicide attacks that have claimed almost 60 Israeli lives over the last few months has hardly persuaded Mr. Rabin that he can easily withdraw his soldiers without raising safety fears and damaging his already tenuous standing in opinion polls.

A senior aide to Mr. Arafat, Tayeh Abdul

Rahim, said the Palestinian Authority was ready to accept a "gradual redeployment" of soldiers as long as it did not take longer than three months. But an official close to Mr. Rahin said there bad been no discussion of that at the meeting

Participants said that there were fewer ten-sions than in other recent meetings between the two leaders. Mr. Arafat avoided reporters, but Mr. Rahin said both sides had agreed to hold intense negotiations so as to overcome our differences on security issues, elections redeployment empowerment.

To the PLO, reaching quick agreement on these matters is crucial, for popular support has been melting away as the months passed without tangible progress on stretching Palestinian rule beyond the narrow, troubled confines of Gaza and Jericho. Elections, for example, are more than seven months overdue, with no date in



Mr. Rabin and Mr. Arafat meeting Thursday in Gaza, where the Israeli leader agreed to let some Palestinians cross the border to jobs in Israel.

Algerian Islamic Guerrillas Carry Out Raid in Tunisia

By Youssef M. Ibrahim New York Times Service

PARIS - Algerian Islamic fundamentalists launched an attack on neighboring Tunisia. killing at least five Tunisian border guards before seizing their weapons and car and slipping back into Algerian territory a few days ago, it was con-firmed here Thursday by French and Algerian affairs ex-

Tracts from the Armed Islamic Group, one of the most

violent armed groups that has the wearing of the veil by wombeen fighting to topple the Alen at work and school and jail-gerian government since 1992, ing Islamie activists who ex-

Tunisia denied the report, the country's stability, which rests in large part on tourism.

Tunisia has been far and

claimed responsibility for the press religious or political opinions.

But the North African counsaying it was meant to damage try shares a long border with the country's stability, which Algeria, which has been in turmoil for three years.

Although Tunisian authoriaway the Arab country that has ties have taken Draconian meabeen most successful in stem- sures to prevent any spillover of ming the tide of fundamental- the conflict, Islamic fundamenism sweeping the region. It en- talists in Algeria have repeatedforces a total separation of ly warned Tunisia to stop coop-Islam from the state, banning erating with other North

A spokesman for the Tunisian government, Moncef Ben Temessek, director of the Tunisian Information Agency, said Thursday that the horder incident had been nothing more guards. than a "simple traffic acci-

Algerian affairs experts, however, said an attack was launched last Saturday by the Islamic Armed Group at Tamerza, in the southern part of

African and Arab countries in Tunisia, to embroil that country the fight against fundamental- in the Algerian conflict and frighten away tourists.

In a fax sent to several Arah dailies, the Armed Islamic Group of Algeria said its guerrillas had carried out the raid, killing seven Tunisian border

The Armed Islamic Group reckoned to be the most violent of several Islamic armed factions hattling the Algerian Army, said its men had infiltrated a few kilometers inside

Israel's Ex-Cairo Envoy Named to Amman Post

JERUSALEM - Israel has

appointed its first amhassador

to Jordan, four months after

signing a peace treaty with the

kingdom, a Foreign Ministry official said Thursday.

dor to Egypt, Shimon Shamir, will bead for Jordan in a month,

pending confirmation by the

Foreign Ministry appointments

The former Israeli ambassa-

YELTSIN: Defending a War

Continued from Page 1 protection for domestic industry and said the state must still

subsidize agriculture. He urged restraint on spending, but said the government must find a way to restore the inflation-ravaged savings of millions of Russians, must fully finance the military and must raise salaries because of the

prescription for more inflation. "The social costs of economic policy are still too high," Mr. Yeltsin said, urging a nationwide minimum standard of living and saying, "1995 must become the year of filling economic reform with social

high cost of living - a circular

But since he first made the same plea in December 1993. the government has done little to change its spending to reduce support of production and cre-

ate a social security net. Mr. Yeltsin also railed against crime and corruption, especially in the huge bureaucracy that has been a bedeviling feature of Russia since long before Gogol wrote "Dead Souls."

At the same time, his own presidential apparatus, a form of court, has grown to include several thousand officials who are seeking ways to finance themselves outside the budget and the scrutiny of Parliament.

Mr. Yeltsin blamed soft sentences and weak judges for hindering the fight against crime, though judges argue that many laws needed to deal with the new world of economic crime have never been passed, so can-not be enforced.

On Chechnya, Mr. Yeltsin said, "Our state turned out to be unprepared for effective military action," adding. "This is the cause of casualties, here lies the roots of the violations of the rights of citizens in the course of the military operations."

But he dropped from his text the following: "We must trans-form the destructive energy of the Chechen crisis into the potential for forthcoming changes in the institutions of power, in the army and in political and state practice."

Mr. Yeltsin also repeated his opposition to NATO expan-

Continued from Page 1

that women's brains are better

at this task than men's, or vice

Although the men and won!-

en used their brains differently.

she added, the fact that they

sounded out words equally well

means that "the brain has a lot

of different ways to get to the

Dr. Elizabeth Hampson, a

same result.



Boris N. Yeltsin accepting documents from the ultranationalist Vladimir V. Zhirinovsky on Thursday after the Russian president's state-of-the-nation speech to Parliament.

Moscow in May? Unlikely, Aides Say

By Douglas Jehl
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON - Aides to President Clinton said Thursday that he was not inclined to accept an invitation to travel to Moscow in May for a summit meeting with President Boris N. Yeltsin.

Even after praising much of what Mr. Yeltsin said in his state of the nation speech before the Parliament on Thursday, the aides said that Mr. Clinton would prefer to delay his next trip to Moscow, for two reasons. For one, they said, Mr. Clinton wants to avoid any likelihood of being in Russia while

troops remain in the secessionist Chechen Secondly, the date proposed by Mr. Yeltsin

neuroscientist at the University

of Western Ontario, said the

finding "provides definitive evi-

dence" that men and women

can use their brains differently

to perform the same task. "Nothing was conclusive until

now," she said. It means, she

said, "we should be open to that

possibility in other areas of the

Dr. Shaywitz said she was

brain as well."

BRAIN: View of Brain Activity Proves Women and Men Think Differently

would put Mr. Clinton at the center of ceremonies celebrating the allied victory over Nazi Germany, and the president might then be expected to attend V-E celebrations in other European capitals even as Congress is pressuring him to direct his attention at the United States.

It has been a full month since Mr. Yeltsin extended his invitation. But the White House spokesman, Michael McCurry, would say Thursday only that diplomats from the two countries were still discussing the best time for a meeting between the two leaders.

But Mr. McCurry did suggest that some date after Mr. Yeltsin's May 8 recommendation "might be more helpful in terms of the relationship," particularly "if an impediment like the conflict in Chechava is successfully

human functions. Reading is

the pinnacle of what humans can do."

adults have such difficulty

learning to read and it has im-

more missed payments by indebted Mexican companies renewed fears among investors that Mexico's liquidity crisis was escalating and sent the peso into a tailspin against the dollar

In New York, the dollar ended at 6.0850 pesos, up 12 centavos on the day. But the dollar serve endorse this use of part of was down from a high of about the resources that were provided to Mexico earlier," the offithe diplomatic and financial maneuvering aided the Mexican currency.

Mexican stocks slumped, however, and the anxiety spread to stock markets in Arwhose markets also dropped even though they do not have Mexico's short-term debt prob-

The debt problems largely arose because Mexico ran low on foreign currencies, reflecting its big trade deficit. The country had been importing goods with an overvalued peso, keeping its living standards high but making it vulnerable to a financial crisis as soon as investors begai to worry about the foreign re-

What is happening in Mexico now is a cash crunch that had been foreseen as sky-high interest rates to protect the peso from falling squeezed Mexico's banks as well as companies. The rates were up to 40 percent Wednesday after the Sidek announcement

Earlier completion of the rescue package might have forestalled this, because its purpose is to convert short-term foreign debt into loans of three to five years that can be paid hack as Mexico's trade delicit narrows and its economy grows. But the delay has sapped confidence in Mexico's financial structure.

"It's not a peso problem any more," said Lawrence Goodman. Latin American specialist at Salomon Brothers Inc. in New York. "It's a liquidity problem now. The government has been helping the hanks pay off their tesobonos by exchanging them for short-term peso deht, and now others need cash. It's a problem of too many pe-sos chasing not enough dollars.

Geoffrey Dennis of Bear, Steams & Co. said he believed Grupo Sidek was trying to force the Mexican government into offering some kind of financial bridge so that it could repay its dollar debt later, when Mexico's currency had recovered and the peso cost of repayment would be reduced.

we do not believe this is the first of a long series of de-first of a long series of de-faults," Mr. Dennis said. In-deed, several Mexican control of the several Mexican control of th were ready to pay their dollar debts or had already deposited mediate implications for tests money in American banks to do for reading disabilities and so.

The tesobono redemption strategies to overcome them, he planned for next week is being

PESO: Rush to the Credit Line as Currency Weakens done "with the purpose of continuing reducing the number of

tesohonos outstanding," the Mexican government said. A U.S. Treasury official said Washington supported Mexi-

co's plan to redeem the teso-bonos. "The Mexican authori-ties have consulted with us. The Treasury and the Federal Re-

Robert D. Hormats, a former U.S. financial official and the vice chairman of Goldman Sachs (International) Inc., said the redemption plan was "a gentina, Brazil, and Chile, confidence-builder, because it gives investors a sense of stability in the market, that the government is able to buy back these things." Mr. Hormats called the move

"a time-honored tradition" that when an issuer thinks the market price of its outstanding bonds is too low, it buys it back, "just like a stock buyback by a corporation." He said the likely message being sent to markets was, "Look, the Treasury, the Fed and the Mexican authorities are saying there are a lot of bumps, but we are working to-

But a European financial official, who did not want to be identified, said: "The technical measures alone may not do the trick. There is a huge amount of money available, but the real question is how fast Mexico can come up with a convincing economic program.

This will be the third time this year the Mexican government has offered to buy hack tesobonos before they mature. according to Bloomberg Business News. On Jan. 16, Mexico's central bank repurchased \$1.06 billion; a week later it bought \$1.43 billion.

The total amount of tesobonos outstanding is more than \$20 hillion, Bloomberg added. citing Mexican government data. There are a little more than \$20 billion of tesobonos outstanding, down from \$30 billion at the end of 1994.

By redeeming the tesobonos, the government aims to bolster the peso. Holders of tesobonos have been reluctant to roll over their investments in past weeks, demanding dollars when the securities matured.

committee, the official said.

Continued from Page I

gious institutions, by destroyng them if necessary.

Among their evidence is the government's urban renewal effort in central Karbala, which bas included the razing of historic houses and Shiite community centers around the "It is tantamount to someone

oing to the center of Rome. destroying all the monasteries and the churches and replacing Qasim Khoie, was a leading in Bombay. Shirte spiritual figure until his But to M death in 1992.

Mr. Khoie, who runs a London-based foundation, said in a telephone interview that the Iraqi government has rebuffed the foundation's offer to help finance rebuilding of the community centers.

The dehate over the development plan is another twist in the government's continuing struggle with its Shiite population. elements of which rose up against Mr. Saddam's rule in

KARBALA: Restoring Mosques March 1991, during the chaotic

aftermath to the Gulf War, and

briefly controlled major southern cities. The government has since tried to create an impression of harmony with the Shiites, beginning restoration work on the shrines within months of crushing the rebellion. Today the Hussein and Abbas mosques

leam as brigh Reconstruction has been followed by a surge in visits, which them with casinos and restau-rants," said Yusef Khoie, whose arrival of about 8,000 members grandfather, Ayatollah Ahu of the Shiite Bohra sect, based

> But to Mr. Khoie and other opposition critics, the reconstructions belie a government crackdown.

> Recent UN reports on human rights in Iraq have cited the regime's failure to account for 105 Shiite religious scholars and family members arrested in March 1991, and there are accusations of government involvement in the death of Mohammed Taqi Khoie, a son of the late ayatollah who died in July in a car crash.

FRANCE: Balladur Unbeatable? Not So Sure Now

government. Although the pay-

ments from the company, GSI. a data-processing services com-pany, was not illegal, Mr. Balladur's spokesmen have never explained what he did to earn the salary or accounted for their own earlier denial that he had links with the company at the time. He reportedly was paid 100,000 francs a month.

Regulatory authorities dis-closed Thursday that Mr. Balladur has enjoyed a huge advantage over his rivals in television coverage, mainly on France's most-watched station, Channel One. This allegation of favoritism carries a special political tinge because the station is owned by Bouygues, the country's biggest construction company, and construction is a sector deeply implicated in recent

corruption scandals. tt is too soon to tell whether

the cumulative impact of these incidents will shift the course of the campaign or even stick to Mr. Balladur, who until now has enjoyed immunity from suspicion of corruption and cronyism. But the risks that the new

mood carries for him were pinpointed by a French journalist. Denis Jeamhar of Le Point magazine. In contrast to the ups-and-downs of American presidential elections, the journalist said, "French candidates who lose a commanding lead never get it back."

Mr. Balladur, who has stuck with his bland, almost bloodless style on the assumption that it is reassuring for the French. made a poor impression this week in presenting a vague presidential program. So far, Mr. Chirac has failed

to make much headway with his attacks on Mr. Balladur, partly because he has to contend with criticism that his personal amhitions have led him to flirt with the French left. His campaign may turn on the impact of a speech Friday laying out his OWIL program.

Although most voters expect Mr. Balladur to become president, there has been consistent evidence in polls that only about one-third intend to vote for him. That leaves a floating vote that might deny him the election.

For investment information

Read the MONEY REPORT every Saturday in the IHT

The cunference,

Europe's leading energy forum,

experts from the world over.

will be addressed by ail industry

particularly surprised to see dif-

ferences between men and

women in decoding words.

Reading, she said, has nothing to do with basic survival skills

or reproduction, for which men

and women might have devel-

oped different brain functions

during the course of evolution.

volves cognition," she said. "And it is the most complex of

This is a difference that in-

OIL & MONEY

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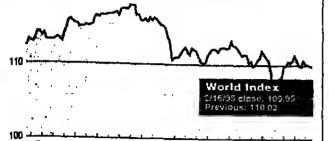
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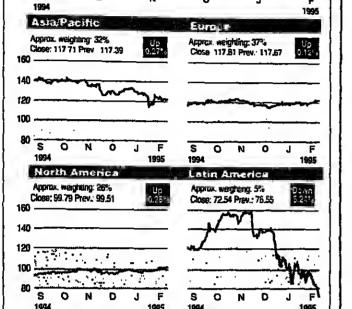
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Industrial Sectors				7 . 1 W. 3			
	This.	Press.	change		Thus,	Pres. close	change
Energy	114,05	114,21	-0,14	Capital Goods	111,35	110.83	+0.47
Utilities	109,94	111,64	-1.52	Flaw Meterials	127.92	128.60	-0.53
Finance	110.05	109,79	+0.24	Consumer Goods	104.55	104.33	+0.21
Services	105.88	106.70	-0.77	Miscellaneous	116.99	117.43	-0.37

Mexico Crisis and Stable Rates Dim Dollar's Outlook

By Carl Gewirtz International Herald Tribus

PARIS - The dollar slipped in heavy trading on world currency markets Thursday, as a fundamental reassessment of the currency took hold, making intervention by the Federal Reserve Board increasingly likely, analysts and traders said.

The dollar was undermined by the belief that U.S. rates will not now rise much further and by its exposure to Mexico's financial crisis.

The size of the dollar's loss was relatively small. The dollar ended at 1.4890 Deutsche marks, down from has over the mark and the prospect Renewed worries about develop-1.5095 DM on Wednesday, a drop of that advantage would grow. With in-1.4 percent. But its fall below 1.50 DM flation still tamed and growth appar-The delay in implementing the S53

selling and laying the ground for fur-ther retreat.

The dollar fell to 97.405 yen from 98.350 yen. Traders said the dollar appeared set to test last year's lows of 1.4855 DM and 96.05 yen. Analysts said they thought it likely that the Federal Reserve would intervene to try to arrest the decline, but they agreed that there was little likelihood that such a move would have a long-lasting

impact.
The problem is that the dollar ap-The problem is that the dollar appears to have lost its major pillars of ministration, would be quick to supsupport; the interest rate advantage it has over the mark and the prospect that advantage would grow. With in-

was a major psychological blow, trad-ently slowing, the prevailing view in billion package of international loans, ers said, triggering automatic stop-loss the market now is that U.S. interest combined with the first major default rates have risen enough to control in-flation, while the economy expands moderately.

"Investors are reassessing risks, and people are looking for a safe haven." said Rainer Marian of Credit Suisse in Zurich. "There's a feeling that the mood in the Bundesbank is, the stronger the mark the better." He also said there was some doubt about whether the European central banks, offended at the way the Mexican bailout was port the dollar.

on foreign loans by a Mexican corpo-ration, fueled concern that financial distress and looming recession in Mexico would adversely affect the United

At the same time, the mark gathered strength on its own through a combination of political uncertainty in much of Europe and the prospect that a strong domestic recovery will prompt the Bundesbank to increase German interest rates sooner than had been anticipated.

The lira fell to a record low of 1,076.14 to the mark Thursday, despite the intervention of the Italian central bank. Sterling ended the day near its record low, at 2.3498 DM. The French

Spanish peseta all slipped against the mark

The sale of these currencies for marks hurts the dollar, because traders must first buy dollars with the weak currencies, then sell the dollars for

Against other European currencies, the dollar fell to 1,2603 Swiss francs from 1.2760 francs, and to 5.1750 French francs from 5.23g5 francs. The ound rose to \$1.5785 from \$1.5610. Neil MacKinnon at Ciribank in London said there were questions in the market about how fast Washington would be able to support the dollar

See DOLLAR, Page 12

Bell Atlantic and AT&T Scrap Pact

PHILADELPHIA - Bell Atlantic Corp. said Thursday it had ended talks with AT&T Corp. on an interactive video network and would take direct control of the project.

The two telecommunications companies had negotiated for eight months the terms of a multibillion-dollar contract to supply equipment and coordinate purchases from other vendors.

"Both AT&T and Bell Atlantic negotiated diligently and in good faith," said Lawrence T. Babbio Jr., vice chairman of Bell Atlantic. "But after considerable discussion and analysis, we have concluded that we should assume most of the systems engineering and systems integration responsibilities."

Bell Atlantic said the change would

not delay development of the system. Such interactive networks are designed

the systems in northern New Jersey, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Baltimore, the Washington area and Hampton Roads, Virginia, when the Federal Communications Commission approves construction.

The company said AT&T, General Instrument Corp., BroadBand Technologies Inc. and other companies still would supply much of the equipment for the interactive system.

Bell Atlantic, the regional phone com-pany that serves the Middle Atlantic states, has been one of the most aggressive of the so-called Baby Bells in developing interactive systems. The company's decision is a big blow to

AT&T, which has been marketing itself as the company to orchestrate the design and construction of futuristic communications

to provide services such as home shopping and video on demand.

Bell Atlantic expects to begin building control devices and send or receive buge amounts of data at high speed.

AT&T would have been similar to a general contractor, supplying much of the equipment itself. But after the two companies signed a

letter of intent in May, they became embroiled in disputes over the precise terms of the contract. Bell Atlantic executives have been frustrated at what they called AT&T's sluggishness in teaming with other contractors.

AT&T executives tried to put the best possible face on the situation. "We have had a longstanding and very profitable relationship with Bell Atlantic, and we are sure that will continue," said Carly Fiorini, president of the North American division of AT&T Network Systems.
(AP, NYT)

U.S. Appeals Voiding of Microsoft Settlement

By Edmund L. Andrews New York Times Service

WASHINGTON - The U.S. Justice Department Thurswith Microsoft Corp., saying the judge was "squarely wrong"

software company, dismissing the blistering criticism of U.S. day appealed a federal judge's District Judge Stanley Sporkin that the proposed settlement decision on Tuesday to strike down its antitrust settlement was too tame and ineffective. "We believe we did the right thing in this case," Ms. Reno

> [Microsoft said Thursday it would join the Justice Depart-

Attorney General Janet Reno

We thoroughly investi-

found and brought the case we

believed to be supported by the

and bad overstepped his authority. ment in the appeal and "intends to continue to comply with the terms of the consent decree," defended the government's prosecution of the computer The Associated Press reported.]

On Tuesday, Judge Sporkin refused to approve the Depart-ment's settlement with Microsoft, contending that the gov-ernment had failed to address a number of important issues. He chastised the department for re-fusing to explain the reason it had decided to prosecute a relagated Microsoft's conduct. We tively narrow set of practices.

The decision threw the government's most visible antitrust case into turmoil.

Justice Department officials

argued that Judge Sporkin's de-cision was far outside his authority under the Tunney Act, a 22-year-old law requiring a federal judge to rule that antitrust settlements negotiated between the government and a company must be "in the public interest.

Many antitrust experts said the Justice Department was on solid ground. While the judge was clearly allowed to decide whether a settlement would remedy the government's complaints, they said, Judge Spor-kin went further in this case by criticizing the government for not bringing enough com-

Charles Saatchi **Calls It Quits And Sues Firm**

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches LONDON - Charles Saaichi, the creative genius behind Neither side would disclose Saatchi & Saatchi Co., said what Charles Saatchi had writ-

making his job as president in-tolerable. The

out both Saatchis.

company last month, setting off company, his spokesman said. a crisis that has hammered the Charles Saatchi has four years stock price and sent executives to go on a contract that gives and clients packing.

to go on a contract that gives him an annual salary of £312,500

ning soap opera came a day ident of Saatchi & Saatchi Adafter two clients defected from vertising Worldwide, Santchi & Santchi to a new ad agency being formed by Mauhad the first of its many lawrice Saatchi.

with a letter he sent to the board Thursday.

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Thursday he was quitting and ten Instead, both sides resorted suing the advertising agency for to battling it out with press re-

The letter "implied" Charles "He feels his position to be Saatchi wanted to resign, and intolerable. He is suing," a he later offered his resignation spokesman for Charles Saatchi in a telephone conversation with several top Saatchi & Saat-Saatchi & Saatchi said it had chi executives, according to accepted Mr. Saatchi's resigna- Richard Walters, a spokesman tion, leaving the famous adver- for the advertising company. tising company founded 25 Saatchi & Saatchi disputed con-years ago by Charles and his tentions that Charles Saatchi younger brother Maurice with- had been forced to leave the company

Maurice Saatchi was re- Charles Saatchi said he did moved as chairman of Saatchi not resign in his letter and had & Saatchi by shareholders in no need to because he effective-December. He cut all ties to the ly had been pushed out of the

and clients packing.

This latest twist in the run(\$487,000) in his role as life pres-

suits against Maurice Saatchi Charles Saatchi also wants to and his allies thrown out of join up with the new Saatchi court. Two days later, Gallaher agency to compete with Saatchi Ltd., a unit of American Brands, and Mirror Group PLC Charles Saatchi's exodus announced they would follow from Saatchi & Saatchi began the brothers. (AP, Reuters)

WALL STREET WATCH

Stock Picks to Beat the Odds

By James K. Glassman Washington Post Service

TASHINGTON — Few investors need to be reminded that 1994 was a lousy year for stock mutual funds. The average fund lost 3.6 percent, while the Standard & Poor's Corp. 500-stock index gained 1.3 percent. Among the highly paid experts who manage funds for the big investment houses, eight out of 10 didn't even beat the market.

The expert fund managers rarely do. Over the past 10 years, domestic stock funds have produced an annual return that is 15 percent below the return of the S&P index.

Investors confronted with these miserable facts have three courses of action: • Buy an index fund such as the Vanguard Index 500, whose portfolio is structured just like the

 Somehow find mutual funds that consistently beat the averages. • Forget funds and build your own stock portfolio

If you are building a personal stock portfo-lio, a good strategy is "limited diversifica-tion." Academic studies show that, to reduce overall risk, you need to own at least eight stocks. But owning many more barely lowers the portfolio's volatility and adds to your confusion.

Below, are some of the most intriguing ideas of the season.

• Ford Motor Co. is recommended by Kenneth L. Fisher, a California money manager. He said Ford was priced "about where it was in the late 1980s, despite being almost half

Cross Rates

again as big." Down 25 percent from its high of a year ago, the stock is trading at a price-tocarnings ratio of a mere six and paying a 4 percent dividend.

 Utilities have been depressed for nearly two years, but they're beginning to make a comeback as interest rates level off and more investors come to realize the stocks have been beaten down too far.

• Toys 'R' Us Inc. is "an incredible franchise" that has only begun to grow overseas, according to Peter Lynch, a former manager of the Fidelity Magellan Fund. "People underestimate the power of this company," Mr. Lynch said.

• Sears, Roebuck & Co.: "Sears is a really good value stock," said Michael Price, who manages the Mutual Shares fund. An added bonus is that due to a spinoff, for every share of Sears, you'll soon be sent nearly a share of Allstate, a "really well-run" insurance company. Based on earnings estimates for 1995, Sears is trading at a P/E ratio of less than eight, and it's down more than 20 percent from its October 1993 high.

· Boeing Co.: Smith Barney has made the world's largest airplane manufacturer, one of its "Top Picks for 1995." The stock is down from a high of \$61 a share in 1990, and orders remain sluggish, but analyst Pierre Chao "re-mains comfortable with the company's longterm appreciation potential." Buying Boeing is a great way to profit from growth in Asia, Latin America and Africa.

• Rollins Inc., which sells security, lawn care and pest control services, has no debt. Its stock has rebounded from \$22 a month ago. but it's still 20 percent off its high of last March. Revenue and earnings are growing.

Hyundai Firm

SEOUL — Hyundai Motor Co., South Korea's largest automaker, said Thursday it would test the government's willingness to ease a three-year credit squeeze on the Hyundai group

Harry Choi, a spokesman, said Hyundai planned to sub-mit an application to Korea's on European exchanges, are backed by shares held by desig-nated commercial banks.

"We don't know whether we will get the approval, but we will apply," said Mr. Choi.

The Securities Industry Association has denied Hyundai Motor's applications to issue overseas securities since 1993, citing various problems.

Hyundai Motor is the flagship company of the Hyundai

To Apply for Foreign Issue

by applying to issue equity

Securities Industry Association to issue \$150 million in global depositary receipts, which trade like stocks and are often listed

1994 net income doubles In line with forecasts, Rhône-Poulenc's 1994 results show

marked improvement. This progress is linked to: - the initial stages of recovery in sectors that are particularly

conditions, -changes in Rhône-Poulenc's mix of business activities,

sensitive to general economic

-the Group's commitment to programs designed to improve competitiveness in all sectors of activity.

A SHARP UPTURN IN SALES

Consolidated sales rose to FF 86.3 billion (+ 7.1%). This growth can primarily he attributed to an increase in sales volumes, especially in the Chemicals and Fibers sectors. Sales prices in these sectors remained low, though they began to pick up in the second half of 1994. Pharmaceutical prices fell in several countries. a direct result of government policies to reduce health care costs.

IMPROVEMENTS IN **OPERATING RESULTS**

Operating income rose 17.3%. Excluding exceptional items, operating income increased by 24%, reflecting the Group's continued commitment to improve its operations.

 Operating income increased fourfold in the Fibers and Chemicals sectors, the result of hoth a series of restructuring and productivityenhancement programs implemented in the past several years and the beginning of an economic upturn in Europe.

A 40% increase in the Agro sector reflecting lower fixed costs and a more favorable product mix.

A slight decrease in operating income in the Health sector due to a

Sharply improved performance

RHÔNE-POULENC INFORMS ITS SHAREHOLDERS

Consolidated sales: FF 86.3 billion (+7.1%)

Income from operations: FF 6.9 hillion (+17.3%)

> Net income: FF 1.9 billion (+99.1%)

 Higher earnings per share and proposed dividend

Net income per share: FF 6.40 (+ 67.5%) Gross dividend: FF 4.20 (+ 17%)



General Shareholders' Meeting: April 13, 1995 (first call: March 31, 1995)

substantial provision linked to restructuring measures at Rhône-Poulenc Rorer. Excluding exceptional items, operating income in the Health sector increased by 5.4%. reflecting excellent performances in human vaccines and animal health as well as higher sales at Rhône-Poulenc Rorer during the second half of the year. Free cash flow from operations continued to improve, reaching FF 2.7 billion, compared to FF 2.1 billion in 1993.

NET INCOME DOUBLED, DIVIDEND RAISED

1994 net income increased to FF 1,915 million, a 99.1% increase over the 1993 level.

Net income per share rose to FF 6.40 in 1994, compared with FF 3.82 the previous year, an increase of 67.5%. The gross dividend will be raised to FF 4.20 (including a tax credit of FF 1.40), 17% above the 1993 level.

INNOVATION

Research & Development expenditures rose to FF 6.7 hillion (+ 4.1%). All sectors combined, a total of approximately 20 new products were launched in 1994 and patent applications were filed in a number of countries. Their impact on sales and income should be felt in 1996 and beyond.

1995 FORECASTS

Reflecting continued growth in results from operations and its ongoing commitment to improve competitiveness. Rhône-Poulenc expects to post further improvement in its 1995 results.

For further information, please contact: Mr. Philippe Rumeau Rhône-Poulent Shareholder Relatio 25, quai Paul Doumer, 92408 Courbevoie cedex - France

Tel. (33.1) 47.68.00.97



CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

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1 SDR 1.40 LNG 1230 No. Constant Richards in other contents: New York Clashings in Amsterdam, Landon, Milion, Paris and Zurich, flixings in other contents: New York and Toronto rates of 3 Jun. a: To busy one paund; b: To busy one dollar: ": Units of 100; M.Q.: not quoted; N.A.: not available. Other Dollar Values									
Currency	Currestcy Per's Carrestcy Per's								
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Eurocurrency Deposits ECU 6-6 % 614-6% **Key Money Rates** Berk base rate
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1-mouth intertor
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PALO ALTO, California, (Bloomberg) — Hewlett-Packard Co.

MCA officials said their resort would create 23,000 construc-

Blue-Chips Inch Up To a Record High

profits amid concerns the market may have topped.

A last-minute surge took the Dow Jones industrial average

Foreign Exchange 1.35 points higher to 3,987.52,

but losing issues outnumbered gainers by a 13-to-8 ratio on the New York Stock Exchange. The Dow was underpinned hy sentiment that corporate

earnings would benefit from a sustained economic expansion, hut the hroader market was unconvinced. The market's had a fairly

extended advance without much of a comeback," said Ricky Harrington, market analyst at Interstate/Johnson Lane. "I don't think it's a foregone conclusion we'll go

through 4,000 here."
Many investors are skeptical serve Board had finished raising interest rates. Higher rates can choke off corporate profit.

While Robert Forrestal, president of the Atlanta Federal Reserve Bank, said Thursday that the central bank's rate increases two weeks ago may be the last in this economic cycle, the Fed chairman, Alan Greenspan, Imre lost % at 14. said Wednesday that he was

also dragged on the stock mar-ket. The price of the benchmark

American

American ket. The price of the benchmark 30-year issue slipped 5/32 depositary receipts lost 1/2 to 19 point, to 100 20/32, taking the in step with weakness in the yield to 7.57 percent, up from Argentine stock market. 7.56 percent Wednesday.

NEW YORK — U.S. blue- active issue on the Big Board, chip stocks edged up to 8 sec-ond consecutive record high Thursday, but the hroader mar-stock dividend since 1989 and ket slumped as investors took proposing a reverse stock split to shrink the number of shares

outstanding. Hewlett-Packard led a rally in technology issues, rising 10½ to 115% after reporting stronger first-quarter net income than analysts expected, marking the fifth straight quarter of results that exceeded expectations.

Hewlett also said its printer husiness remained strong. which lifted Adobe Systems 2 to 341/2 because Adobe receives royalties from laser printer makers that use its Postscript printer language.

Motorola rose 24 to 641/2, and Intel rose 1/2 to 79%.

Telephone stocks were weak, with AT&T losing 1 to 51% on expectations for the company to lower its rates to compete with MCI. MCI fell % to 194.

Chemical stocks were weak with Dow Chemical losing 134 about whether the Federal Re to 65% a day after losing a liahility case related to breast implants it manufactures.

Monsanto lost 1/2 to 7614, and Union Carbide dropped 1 to 28. Baxter International rose % to 31 after it said its health-care unit was renegotiating a distrihution agreement with Imre Corp. for its Prosorba product.

Sears rose % to 4714 after it still concerned about inflation said it would exchange all of its and questioned recent signs so-called mandatorily exthat the economy was slowing. changeable preferred shares for A weak dollar and a down-common shares. Sears said the turn in Treasury bond prices exchange should not affect

(AP. Bloomberg, Reuters)

DOLLAR: Malaise Taking Hold

Continued from Page 11 after its decision to commit \$20 hillion of the Treasury's intervention money to support Mex-

Nonetheless, Mr. MacKinnon said that questions about new low of 90 yen. But Joe intervention were secondary to

U.S. Stocks

the fact that the dollar is losing its allure just on the basis of interest-rate comparisons.

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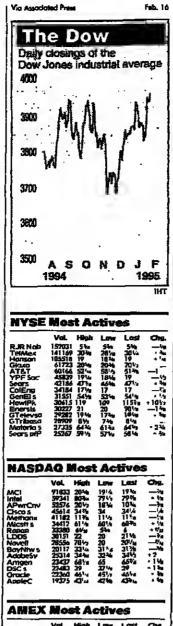
Yields on 10-year U.S. gov-

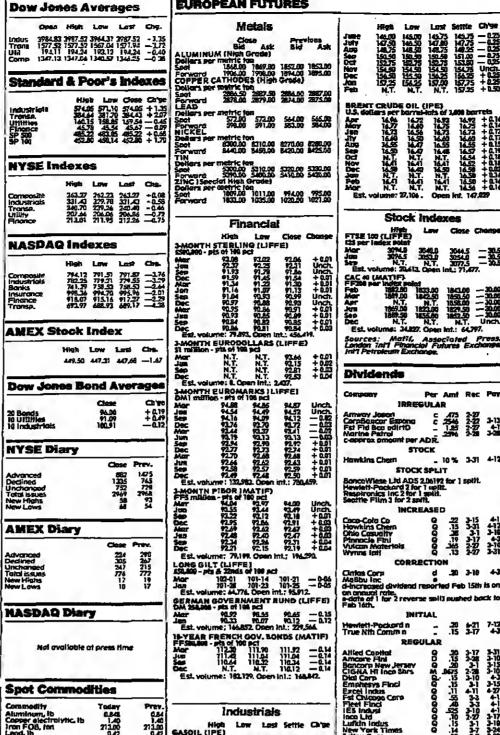
WORLD STOCK MARKETS

German government bonds. In early December, there was a 60 basis-point differential.

Mr. MacKinnon sees the dollar headed for a record low of 1,25 DM within a year, and to a Prendergast, an analyst at Paribas Ltd. in London, sees the dollar slipping only to around 1.45 DM before long-term investors step in to give it sup-

Traders and analysts attrib-









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Allowing private compa-

tion to Brazilian companies.

LIN Shares Drop on AT&T Dispute

NEW YORK (AP-DJ) - LIN Broadcasting Corp. stock fell sharply Thursday after AT&T Corp., which has rights to fully acquire LIN, said it disagreed with the cellular phone company's valuation of its own stock.

When AT&T acquired McCaw Cellular Communications Inc for \$11.5 hillion in September, it gained a 52 percent stake in L1N and the right to huy the remaining 48 percent. LIN's shares fell \$10.25 to \$130.25.

On Wednesday, AT&T said its advisers valued LIN at \$105 a share, or about \$5.6 billion. Advisers for LIN's independent directors valued the company 48 percent higher, at \$155 a share, or about \$8.26 billion. The companies now will hire another adviser to determine a fair market value for LIN. When a valuation is set, AT&T will have 45 days to decide to buy the company.

nies to carry out oil exploration. extraction, refining, import, ex-Insider Defendants Plead Innocent port and transportation opera-

NEW YORK (AP) - Five criminal defendants in the AT&T tions through contracts with the state oil company, Petrobras.

• Abolishing restrictions that insider trading case pleaded innocent Thursday to federal charges that they made more than \$2 million from illicitly obtained stock tips about the telephone company's takeover plans.

limit coastal and river naviga-The defendants, among 17 people named in the case unveiled U.S. authorities last week, were released on bond after their Opening local distribution arraignment in U.S. District Court in Manhattan before U.S. Magistrate Nina Gershon.

erument bonds are less than 10 uted the yen's gain to the apbasis points, or 0.10 percentage proaching end of Japan's fiscal point, higher than on 10-year year in March.

GEC 255
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Gen'1 Acc 256
Gen'2 Acc 256
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BRASILIA - President Fer-

nando Henrique Cardoso antions on foreign investment.

Market Sales

Mr. Cardoso said the six con-

| Close Prev. | 2.34 | 2.36 | 2.36 | 2.36 | 2.37 | 2.36 | 2.37 | 2.36 | 2.37 | 2.37 | 2.38 | 2.37 | 2.38 | 2.37 | 2.38 | 2.37 | 2.38 | 2.37 | 2.38 | 2.37 | 2.38 | 2.37 | 2.38 | 2.37 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 2.38 |

tion plan that had driven down They would lift the nationalist chronic inflation.

Cardoso Unveils Brazilian Reform Plan

nounced economic reform pro- through a moment of many posals Thursday that included changes, a moment in which easing the state oil and telephone Brazil is beginning to wake up monopolies and lifting restric- and see that it has the chance for a positive future," he said.

The changes would bring Brastitutional reforms he was send- zil's economy, the biggest in Lating to Congress were vital to the in America, in line with the globlong-term success of a stabiliza- al trend towards open markets. Cardoso include:

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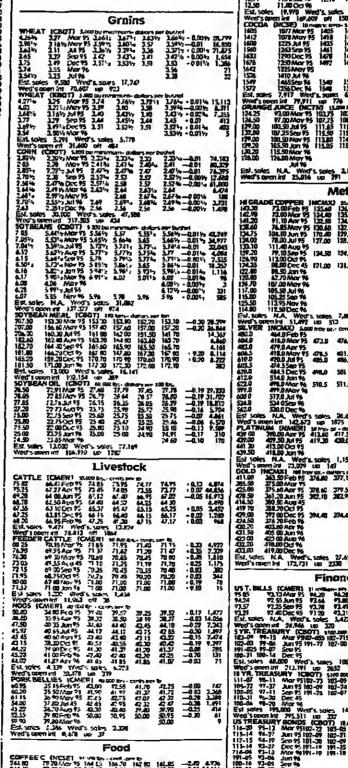
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 constitution's grip on the econo-"The country is living my by ending restrictions on domestic and foreign investment.

"For Brazil to continue growing it is necessary to have a partnership with Brazilian and foreign capital, and this is what we're going to get with these reforms," Mr. Cardoso said.

The reforms proposed by Mr.

of natural gas via pipeline to private companies.



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del, an independent research

group, said that part of the problem was the West German food industry's maturity.

She said relative newcomers

- such as East German pro-

ducers - were in the position

of having to develop better, more innovative products.

the 43rd variety of liverwurst,

you're not going to make it."

She added that East Ger-

man producers were virtually

unknown in the West and that

packaging in the East - usu-

ally plain wrappers with little

or no design — was often not as eye-catching as that in the

West. East German goods

have also long had a poor rep-

utation for quality in the West, she said, an image that takes

Other analysis said that

East German producers were

still fearning marketing skills

that bave long been standard

To help Eastern producers,

the state of Brandenburg has

supported a handful of stores

that have agreed to feature

products from Eastern re-

Horst Faber, president of the State Association for

Food Retailers in Branden-

hurg, said the real problem

stemmed from Germany's

underdeveloped wholesale

sector. He said there had been

too much consolidatioo in

Germany's supermarket

time to live down.

in the West.

"If you've come up with

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Deutsche Telekom , Moves to Update Its Internet Link

> BERLIN - Deutsche Telekom AG announced Thursday plans that could soon give millions of Germans access to the of Windows.

Together with a group of companies including Interna-tional Business Machines Corp. and Microsoft Corp., Telekom has developed software based on Microsoft Windows that makes its archaie Datex-J sys-

tem more user-friendly. Datex-J is a text-based computer network that requires its about Telekom's plans but said nsers to type in lices of text to navigate the unwieldy system.
Online services that use a Windows format, allowing users to point at an item and

ingly popular. The new service, to be called Telekom Online, will offer subserihers Germao language talk about strategy for managcomputer services ranging from home shopping to online publications, including many of Germany's leading magazines.

millioo people connected to the ny, ltaly, Japan, the United Internet, an international web States and Canada - as a fothat links computer networks, rum for addressing the legal, software for Telekom Ooline to tions of the rapid expansion

encourage its usage. Telekom hopes to bead off an invasion of its home market by Commissioo, the ministers will U.S. online computer services be advised by more than 40 such as CompuServe. The com- chief executives from technolpany said it wants to form close ogy companies.

work, and prefers Marvel, a service Microsoft plans to make available through a new version

It is also talking to AT&T Corp.'s Interchange, to he launehed later this year.

"At the moment we are talking to all the big online net-works, including Microsoft. We are talking about Marvel," said Horst Gellert, a Telekom board

He would give few details the company wanted to have a strong American partner to share in future U.S. developments in software.

choose it, have become increas- Information Age' Session Ministers from Europe, North America and Japan will meet next Friday in Brussels to ing the "information society." Reuters reported from Brussels.

The ministerial conference was planned by the G-7 coun-There are an estimated 30 tries - Britain, France, Germa-Telekom will distribute free technical and social implicaall Datex-J users in order to and improvement of information technology.

Hosted by the European

German Quest: Shelf Space

By Miriam Widman Special to the Herald Tribune

BERLIN -- When Werner Kuschla asked a major German supermarket chain whether it would put his company's sausages and cold cuts on its shelves, he was told: Sure - pay more than I million Deutsche marks (\$663,000) and your products will have first priority for shelf space."

"I told them to forget it," said Mr. Kuschla, sales director of Luckenwalder Fleischwaren GmbH, an East Ger-man producer. "We don't have that kind of money."

Mr. Kuschla's problem is a common one, say food producers in Eastern Germany who claim their products can-not compete with those of Western producers because of a comparative lack of financial resources and contacts within the countrywide industry.

Buyers for supermarket companies, pointing out that so-called listing fees - upfront payments to retailers to ensure shelf space for products — are required for everyone, insist that no favoritism is shown to West German producers. But those in the East say that a well-established food producer in the West has more money and is in a better position to pay and to sell products.

Manfred Memmert, director of Süssmost & Weinkelterei Reichard GmbH, an East German fruit-juice producer, said listing fees of 250,000 DM were commonplace.

And money may be only part of the problem. Mr. Memmeri said it was almost impossible for East German producers to get an appointment with a supermarket buyer in the hope of introduc-

'If you've come up with the 43rd variety of liverwurst, you're not going to make it.

Sabine Mielke, a foodindustry analyst in Germany.

ing a new product. 'I'm still hoping to get my products listed," he said.

Other East German producers bave called the system a "supermarket mafia" that caters to richer West German

Heinz Fassbender, a director at Rewe AG, a country-wide market chain, said he couldn't think of any measures his company could take to promote East German goods. But he acknowledged that coonections were of paramouot importance.

Sabine Mielke, a director at

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Kleinwort Says Bonds **Hurt Profit**

LONDON - Kleinwort Benson Securities said Thursday that its pretax profit fell 13 percent as a drop in profit from trading stocks and bonds offset gains in fees from merger and

advisory work.

The banking company said it earned £97 millioo (\$151 million) in the year, down from £111.7 million in 1993. The year-earlier profit included a one-time gain of £9.2 million.

The company raised its 1994 dividend to 21.5 pence a share from 18.5 pence in 1993. But the dividend increase did not overshadow the bottom line for investors, who sent Kleinwort's stock down 8 pence, to 631.

Lord Rockiey, chairman of the company, said 1994 had been a successful year given the background of unsettled markets and difficult trading conditions because of a change in interest rate cycles in the United States and Britain.

"Although markets have heeo unsettled, we have achieved an increased share of customer business in all the major equity markets in which we operate," Lord Rockley said.

Kleinwort said income from rading fell to £43.3 million from £104 million in 1993. That drop more than offset an increase in income from fees and commissions, which rose to £310 million from £271.5 million.

Lord Rockley said the environment for trading had oot improved so far this year. "At the moment, it's fair to say that trading conditions and

prospects generally are little changed from the latter half of 1994," he said. "What we can actually achieve will depend on the market activity." (Reuters, Bloomberg, AFX)

SE Banken Shares Fall

SE Banken AS, one of Sweden's largest hanks, said 1994 operating profit rose to 3.58 bil-679 million kronor in 1993, hut a one-time write-down on propexties turned the profit into a

The results sent SE Banken's • Kesko Oy said 1994 pretax profit at the Finnish consumer goods shares down 2.20 kronor to 41.60,

The company took a write-down of 4.28 billioo kronor on

Investor's Europe Frankfurt London FTSE 100 Index **CAC 40** 1700 S O N D J F 1900 S ON D J F 1994 1995 2800 SONDJF 1994 1995 Thursday Close Exchange Index Prev. Close 413.26 AEX 410.09 -0.77 -0.04 7,095.62 Stock Index 7.092.51 2,135.04 -0.90 2.115.72 Frankfurt +0.05 Frankfurt FAZ 1,833.56 -0.60 HEX 1 822 57 2,334.80 London Financial Times 30 2,323,50 FTSE 100 3.051.10 London General Index 288 54 -0.8310494 10696 -1.89 Milan MIBTEL Paris CAC 40 1,835,00 1.861 90 -1.44 1,632.32 -1.05 Stockholm SX 16 -0.89Vienna ATX Index 976.71 985.47 925 11 -0.49

Very briefly:

• Tenneco Inc. priced the initial equity offering of the U.S. industrial company's unit Albright & Wilson Ltd. at 150 pence (\$2.34) a share, valuing the chemicals company at £470.3 million.

 Empresa Nacional de Electricidad SA, or Endesa, said 1994 net profit after minorities rose 13.6 percent, to 132.73 billion pesetas (\$1 billion), as sales at the Spanish utility rose 7.8 percent, to 811.53 billion pesetas.

 Moldova's privatization program has placed nearly 600 companies of the 1.555 slated for mass voucher privatization in 1994-95 into private hands, the minister in charge of the sell-off said.

• British car output rose 18.5 percent in January, to 119.358 units. from a year earlier. Separately, British sales of machine tools rose an adjusted 8.1 percent in December from November.

 Buderus AG, a former unit of Metallgesellschaft AG, said pretax profit in the year to September jumped 53 percent, to 203 million Deutsche marks (\$135 million), as sales in rose 8 percent, to nearly 3 billion DM.

 Axa SA said premium income at the French insurer rose 3.4 percent in 1994, to 134.15 billion francs (\$26 billion), beld down by competition from former state insurers and continuing malaise

• French semifinished goods prices rose 2.7 percent in the fourth quarter, the strongest quarterly increase in 10 years.

in the European insurance husiness.

 Swiss 1994 ehemical exports rose 5.1 percent, to 23.5 billion Swiss francs (\$18.5 billion), while imports were up 5.8 percent, to lion kronor (\$486 millioo) from 12.5 billion francs, the Swiss Society of Chemical Industries said.

Georg Fischer AG's chief executive officer, Martin Huber, said 1994 oet profit would be "significantly" better than the 50 million Swiss francs expected.

retailer rose 62 percent, to 462 million markka (\$99 million), after sales rose 5 percent, to 27.1 billion. • FLS Industries AS of Denmark said the board of the world's

its property portfolio.

(AFX, Bloomberg, Reuters)

largest producer of cament factories would be restructured and its chairman would resign.

AFX, AFP, Bloomberg, Knight-Ridder, Reuters largest producer of cement factories would be restructured and its

Higher Output Helps Statoil Post Record Earnings

STAVANGER, Norway - Statoil AS, the state-owned oil company, said Thursday that 1994 was its most profitable year ever as petroleum output rose and petrochemicals rebounded.

Aided by reductions in operating costs and higher profit on petroleum trading, oet income for the year rose to 5.4 billion kroner (\$816 million) from 3.4 billion kroner in 1993. Statoil increased oil production 8.5

percent, which helped bolster earnings even as the price it received for its oil fell 7 percent on average. It also slashed operating costs by 800 million kroner.

vik, the company's chief executive. "Im- sales of gas and the sale of the group's profit of 801 million kroner compared good return in the form of increased oil production and lower costs."

Operating profit in Statoil's natural gas to customers.

provement efforts are now yielding a interest in the Etzel gas store in Germany. with 435 million kroner the previous year. Like many petrochemical makers, cause it reduced the amount of Statoil's

roduction and lower costs."

Statoil saw higher prices and margins
Analysts said that was good news for for its products, which are made and the government, Statoil's only sharehold-er. The company said it would boost its with Neste Oy of Finland. Chemicals Statoil was founded by the dividend payment to the government to lost money in 1993 and were profitable 1.6 billion kroner from 1.1 billioo kroner. in 1994, although the company didn't Average oil output during the year rose say bow much it made. Operating profit from refining and

to 449,000 barrels a day from 414,000 barrels in 1993, which offset a decline in marketing fell to 166 million kroner prices to about \$15.80 a barrel from \$17. from 266 million kroner, reflecting weak That kept operating profit from oil pro-duction steady at 8.7 billion kroner, refining margins partially offset by stronger margins on marketing products

Statoil continued to do well in its oil The Statoil group achieved a very good result in 1994," said Harald Nor- 3.6 billion kroner, reflecting increased trading business, which had operating

dollar-denominated debt measured in Statoil was founded by the Norwegian government in 1972, three years after oil was discovered in the Norwegian portion of the North Sea. Norway is now Western

A weaker U.S. dollar also helped be-

Europe's largest oil producer. Statoil also said it it planned to reorganize into 15 business areas from four, effective March 1. Currently the company's four business areas are exploration and production, natural gas, refining and marketing, and oil trading and shipping. (Bloomberg, AP, AFX)

Lower Sales Weigh on SMH Profit

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

ZURICH - Shares in Société Suisse Microèlectronique & d'Horlogerie SA fell 5 percent Thursday after the maker o watches reported a 29 percent fall in 1994 net profit, hurt by lower sales and the strong

Registered shares in SMH, the world's largest watchmaker, gained almost 10 percent from Monday to Wednesday after analysts at Goldman Sachs & Co. and Umon Bank of Switzerland recommended the stock.

After the market closed Wednesday, the company said 1994 profit had declined to "around" 315 million Swiss francs (\$246 million) from 441 million francs a year earlier. Sales fell 7 percent, to 2.66 billion francs from 2.86 billion in 1993.

The shares closed 7.50 francs lower 1 hursday at 148.

Urs Diethelm, an analyst with Bank J. was "slightly below expectations," a cut in the dividend payout to 1.7 francs a registered share from 2 francs came as a surprise. (Bloomberg, AFX)

■ News Report Damages Hoechst Stock
Shares in Hoechst AG fell more than 2
percent to 328.5 Deutsche marks (\$218) after a newspaper reported that the company may pay \$3 billion to \$3.5 billion for a 51 percent interest in the U.S. drug company Marion Merrell Dow Inc., Bloomberg Business News reported from Frankfurt.

Hoechst would not comment on the report by the business weekly WirtschaftsWoche.

Purchase of U.S. Unit **Cuts Haislund Profit**

OSLO - Hafslund Nycomed AS said Thursday its pretax income fell 16 percent (\$199 million), as charges associated with buying a U.S. company offset an increase in sales.

The pharmaceuticals and energy company said sales rose to 7.82 billion krooer from 6.58 billion krooer but that it took a charge of 209 million kroner related to the purchase of Sterling Winthrop Inc.'s diagnostic imaging business last year. Hasflund said the acquisition of-fered new and promising market possibilities.

(Bloomberg, AFX, Reuters)

Sanofi Ends Champagne Suit

PARIS - Sanofi SA said Thursday it had settled a lawsuit brought hy champagne producers and would be allowed to call one of its perfumes Champagne in countries other than France, Germany and Switzerland until the end of 1998.

Champagne makers took Sanofi's Yves Saint-Laurent perfumes to court in several countries to contest its use of the name on its perfume, which was launched in 1993. Sanofi said the settlement would not have any financial impact

and that it would abandon the Champagne labeling at the end of 1998. Sanoti acquired control of Yves Saint-Laurent in January 1993. Last year, \$400 million of Champagne perfume was sold.

The association of champagne wine producers, based in Epernay at the heart of the Champagne district, said it agreed with the contents of the Sanofi statement. Sanofi is owned by Elf Aquitaine.

(Bloomberg, Reuters)

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By: The Chase Manhattan Bank, N.A. London, Agent Bank February 16, 1995

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Packer Says He • Won't Settle for **Just 15% of Fairfax**

Aluemberg Business News

the Australian financier, defended Thursday his recent pur- Fairfax because he is not the chase of shares in the newspaper concern John Fairfax representative on its board. Holdings Ltd., saying he wasn't about to be outgunned by rival media moguls Ruperi Murdoch and Conrad Black.

pert Murdoch is saying he percent of Fairfax. Australia's thinks be might buy a bit more government last year allowed than 5 percent," Mr. Packer him to raise his stake from the 15 than 5 percent," Mr. Packer him to raise his stake from the 15 said. "I see Conrad Black say-percent limit previously set for ing that he wants to go to 35 foreigners. Mr. Black has sigpercent. I'm not going to be naled that he may seek permissivek there at 15 percent with sion to raise that stake to 35

Mr. Packer controls Publish. ing & Broadcasting Ltd., which runs the television concern Nine Network Australia Ltd. an Australian native who beand is prohibited under cross-came a U.S. citizen, owns 5 perownership laws from owning cent of Fairfax. He recently said more than 15 of another medium, such as a newspaper.

But he has spent an estimated 40 million Australian dollars (\$29.8 million) to raise his Fairfax stake to about 17.2 percent in open-market purchases that Fairfax shares closed Thursday

Mr. Packer, Australia's lars, up 8 cents.

wealthiest man, is expected to SYDNEY - Kerry Packer, argue - in court if necessary that he does not have control of largest shareholder and has no

Mr. Black, who controls news papers in Canada through Hol-linger Inc. and in Britain through Telegraph PLC, of "I see in the paper that Ru- which he is chairman, holds 25 everybody moving around me." percent to give his holding more

> Mr. Murdoch, chairman of he might consider going to 10 percent.

> The jockeying by the three media heavyweights has triggered speculation that an all-out takeover battle might develop. at a seven-week high of 2.80 dol-

Stock's Mysterious Surge Malaysian Issue Defies Gravity and Logic

KUALA LUMPUR - Stock in a sprawling conglomerate called Multi-Purpose Holdings Bhd, has risen more than 80 percent in three weeks on the Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange, and nobody admits to knowing why.

About 300 million shares, equal to about 40 percent of the company's outstanding stock. have changed hands in that time.

Multi-Purpose stock has helped pull the
Kuala Lumpur Composite Index on a 17

percent climh since Jan. 24, On Wednesday, Multi-Purpose rose 52 sen to 4.92 ringgit on the Malaysian exchange, its

highest price since Sept. 28, 1994. Then on Thursday, the stock fell 24 sen, but recorded 27.9 million trades -its busiest day since Oct. 4, 1993. In the six months between March and August of last year, average daily volume was just 2.3 million shares a day.

If anybody knows what is going on, he or she is not talking. A popular story is that Quek Leng Chan, chairman of another big conglomerate. Hong Leong Co. (Malaysia) Bhd., is making a takeover bid for Multi-

"That rumor surfaces in almost every rally," said David Yong at Arab-Malaysian Securities Bhd.

T.K. Lim, chairman of Multi-Purpose, declined to comment on the company's stock activity. Mr. Quek of Hong Leong did not return phone calls regarding the matter.

Multi-Purpose has half a dozen publicly traded subsidiaries and associates and has gambling, real estate, banking and other activities through a total of 70 associated companies.

Thursday, the Kuala Lumpur Stock Ex-change queried Multi-Purpose on a story about the rumored takeover that appeared in Edge, a local newspaper, on Monday. The company has until Monday to respond.

Traders liken the situation to one in 1993. when Idris Hydraulic (Malaysia) Bhd., a financial services company, rose more than elevenfold on the market, leading the composite index to double in value in the course of the year.

"I think most people would have noticed by now: When Multi-Purpose turns, the market will go with it," said Paul Sim. senior analyst at JB Securities. "It's leading the market. In 1993, it was Idris."

There are many who doubt the Hong Leong takeover story. Whoever believes it "is a nut," a dealer at a

local securities firm said. An analyst at a foreign stock brokerage

concern said the speculation might have started Feh. 8 when, he said, Mr. Lim of Multi-Purpose was seen at the office of Mr. Quek. Hong Leong's chief executive.

One rumor is that someone, or some group, has been manipulating the share price.

Local newspapers bave generally shied away from making definitive statements. An exception was the weekly Edge, which reported on Monday that Mr. Lim planned to give up Multi-Purpose to focus on investments in China. The paper suggested Mr. Quek wants another listed company to provide access to the capital markets.

The paper did not quote company execu-

Pioneer **Considers** Write-Off Of Carolco

TOKYO — Pioneer Elec-tronie Corp. is considering a write-off of about \$86 million in goodwill associated with its 1990 acquisition of a stake in Carolco Pietures Inc., the company's managing director said Thursday.

Masaaki Sono said the company was "examining the business conditions of Carolco" and would make a decision on whether to write off the deht before the financial year ended in March.

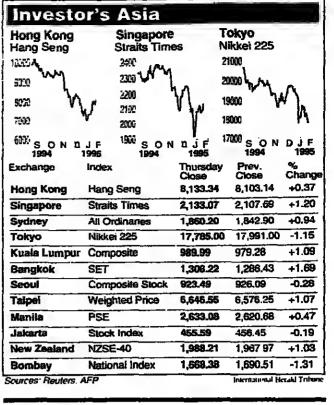
He was speaking at a news conference announcing the company's results for the third quarter of last year. He said Pioneer had no intention of selling the stake or of providing more financial aid to Carolco.

The Japanese consumer-electronics maker owns 41.2 percent of Carolco, an unprofitable Hollywood movie company whose hits include tor 2" Last October, Pioneer gave \$8 million in emergency financing to Carolco after the company ran out of money to continue making pictures.

Analysts said the \$86 million would not be a major drain on Pioneer's earnings, and a one-time solution would help avoid a long, arawn-out leaking of red

Pioneer's troubles are the latest in a series affecting Japanese investors in Hollywood. In November, Sony Corp. wrote off \$2.7 billion in debt associated with its 1989 acquisition of Coit had paid too much for the

Before the Carolco announcement, Pioneer said improved sales of its consumerelectronics products helped push group net profit up nearly 50 percent in the quarter ended Dec. 31. Pioneer stock fell to 40 yen to 2,090.



Very briefly:

• India's state-owned banks raised their prime lending rates to 15 percent from 14 percent. The Bombay stock market's National index fell 1 percent, to 1,668.38.

"Basic Instinct" and "Termina- Yamaichi Securities Cn.'s research unit, citing reconstruction demand after the Kobe earthquake, raised its forecast for growth in Japan's real gross domesue product for the year ending in March 1996 to 3.1 percent from 2.4 percent.

 Agence France-Presse, Australian Associated Press Information Services Pty., the Nihon Keizai Shimbun and Pearson PLCs Financial Times are to jointly create AFX-Asia, an electronic news service focusing on business in the Pacific rim.

. Bankers Trust Australia Ltd., a unit of Bankers Trust New York Corp., said net profit for 1994 fell 5 percent to 259.8 Australian dollars (\$194 million); the company said unusually low tax expenses in 1993 contributed to the fall.

 Taiwan, helped by the global recovery, registered economic growth of 6.51 percent in 1994; the economy grew at an annual rate of 7.01 percent in the fourth quarter.

• Thei Airways International Ltd. said profit for its first quarter, ended Dec. 31, fell 14.5 percent to 932 million baht (\$37 million). lumbia Pictures in what . Hong Kong manufacturers generally expect a mild increase in amounted to an admission that order volumes in 1995, but profit margins are likely to shrink compared with last year, according to a government survey.

• PT Indosat, Indonesia's state-owned telecommunications company, said 1994 profit rose 15 percent, to 289 billion rupiah (\$130 million). Revenue rose 19 percent, to 909.3 billion rupiah,

 Mitsubishi Electric Corp. is to spend \$306 million on a production line for 16-megabit dynamic random-access memory chips at a plant in Alsdorf, Germany. • China Foreign Exchange Center will start trading the Japanese

yen March 1. AFP. AFX, Bloomberg, Knight-Ridder, Reuters

Coles Myer Ltd. To Dispose of Buyback Stock

MELBOURNE - Coles Myer Ltd., the Australian retailer, said Thursday it would dispose of 147 million sbares that remained from its July 1994 buyback of Kmart Corp.'s stake in the company.

Coles Myer said the disposal would involve canceling two-thirds of the shares. In July, Krnart said it was getting out of Australia and sold its 276.8 million

shares back to Coles Myer, "It's all finished now," said George Batsakis, an analyst at the hrokerage J.B. Were & Son. "They can just go back to running the business and trying to get the best out of the retail

The buyback, the largest in Australia's history, cost Coles Myer more than I hillion Australian dollars (\$746 million).

Coles Myer shares closed at 4.35 dollars in up 5 cents.

Separately, the Australian food concern Goodman Fielder Wattie Ltd. said it would sell its 64 percent stake in Goodman Fielder Asia Holdings Ltd.. a Singapore-based subsidiary, to a group of investors for \$132 million.

A Changing of the Guard at Shougang

BELIING - The chairman of Shougang Corp., Zhou Guanwu, bas stepped down from the helm of China's largest steelmaker, a company that has bad the patronage of Deng Xiaoping.

Mr. Zhou has had full financial autonomy and freedom from bureaucratic control. The shake-up hrings the company closer to the central government and has many wondering whether links to the senior leader are still a valuable asset given his declining health.

"Shougang's patronage came from the first family, and not everyone in China was happy about that," said Steve MacNamee of Marlin Partners. "Some people thought

Securities (Hong Kong) Ltd.

to sell as quickly as the original lot.

Hong Kong Firm Expands

Sale of Upmarket Apartments

HONG KONG — Hang Lung Development Co. sold all 90

apartments it offered this week at a site on Hong Kong Island,

and, as a result, put 180 more units on the market Thursday for a

4.640 Hong Kong dollars (\$600) a square foot, which represented

a discount of about 7 percent to current secondary-market prices

in the area, according to Ricky Kwan, an analyst at Schroders

of its Kornville development in Hong Kong's Quarry Bay section

on the market, consisting of more expensive apartments on higher

floors. But it said it did not expect the more expensive apartments

After it sold all of those, Hang Lung put another 180 more units

might be a changing of the guard." Mr. Zhou started working at Shougang

in 1950 and took the company's helm in 1982, three years after Mr. Deng launched changes in China that cast aside the planned economy in favor of market-ori-ented policies. Mr. Zhou is 77.

Mr. Zhou has been replaced by Bi Qun, a vice minister at the Metallurgical Ministry, said Liu Wei, division chief at Shougang's foreign affairs department. The Metallurgical Ministry controls all China's major steel plants except Shougang, which comes directly under the State Council.

Mr. Liu said Mr. Zhou had been replaced because of his age, "It was a smooth transfer of power," he said.

Mr. Bi served as general manager of the Baotou iron and steel plant in Inner Mongolia before his appointment as a deputy minister in 1993. A ministry spokesman confirmed the appointment and said Mr. Bi was still a vice minister,

Mr. Deng stamped his imprimatur on Shougang in May 1992, when he visited the plant and heaped praise on the company's management.

After Mr. Deng's visit, the company was allowed to bypass state approval for investments of less than 200 million yuan (\$24 million) at home and \$10 million overseas. It also established a trading company and a commercial bank with overseas branches, a first for a state-owned corporation.

In China, U.S. Brand Names Face a Battle for Recognition

By Laurence Zuckerman . New York Times Service

American companies eager to win the business of China's 1.2 billion people are fighting an uphill battle, ac-cording to a comprehensive poll of mainland.

Six of the top 10 foreign brands identified by the survey's respondents were Japanese, even though those surveyed were asked to pick from a list containing twice as many American as Japanese names.

Four of the Japanese brands -Panasonic, Hitachi, Toshiba and loyalty was still weak in China, where Toyota - were also the ones the re- consumers are chiefly concerned with

spondents said they held in highest regard. Coca-Cola was the most wideknown American brand, finishing second with 62 percent recognition. just behind Hitachi's 65 percent. The next closest American finishers were Mickey Mouse - which is a distinct brand in China and was the seventh most recognized name, with 54 cent - and Marlboro, which was

eighth, with 51 percent.
"U.S. multinationals have their work cut out for them," said Richard W. Burkholder Jr., director of worldwide operations for the Gallup Orga-

nization, which conducted the poll. The survey also showed that hrand

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the price and quality of the goods they buy and still favor Chinese manufacturers in the countryside. The poll was conducted to promote

Gallup's entry into China and was partly financed by the Japan Management Association. Gallup representatives fanned out across China between May 2 and Sept

15 to ask more than 400 questions of a single individual in each of 3,400 households in the sampling. In especially remote areas, like the

Gobi Desert in Inner Mongolia, Mr. Burkholder said, Gallup interviewers traveled on horseback or by camel.

would have answered if we could have asked each one of them," Mr. Burkholder said. In a country that has been buffeted

suits project what all people in China

the late 1970s hy Deng

Give everything in service to society.'

The government offered a sign Thursday that Hong Kong property prices were on the decline.

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The poll has a margin of error of plus

or minus 2.8 percent, he added. "We're comfortable that these re-

by fierce political winds over the last 40 years, the survey revealed how deeply the free-market policies introping, China's ailing 91-year-old leader, have permeated the national

Asked their personal philosophy, 68 percent of those polled said it could be summed up by the phrase "work hard and get rich." Only 4 percent summarized their personal belief as the Maoist credo: "Never think of yourself.

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By Samuel Abt International Herold Tribune

PARIS — For months, one gray day has trudged hleakly after another. No sun, no sign of spring. Winter, still winter outside the window and inside the heart.

But not all hearts. Mario Cipollini and Gianni Bugno have tasted spring. In the south of France, as televi-sion proved last weekend, the bicycle racing season has begun: There was the pack, gliding along the back roads of Provence, past hills that had to be dotted with early lavender and shiny with the new leaves of olive trees There was the sun and, when it haked the hills, there would be the scent of thyme.

The riders wore shorts and shortsleeved jerseys, the uniform of spring. Spring — Cipollini, Il Magnifico, has been waiting nearly a year for spring. Late last April, in a sprint finish in

er and crashed heavily at high speed. Because the Italian was not wearing a belinet when he thudded onto the road, he suffered a severe concussion. Cipollini is fearless, just ask him.

Was fearless. After the crash he suffered from fierce headaches and found he had lost his zest for the sprint. If he retained his speed over the final 200 meters, he no longer felt able to abandon himself to the fury of that charge. He did not get hack on his bicycle

The Tour of the Mediterranean last week was his first competitive race since the Vuelta. On the third stage, from Maugio to Berre among the green hills outside Marseille, Cikilometer left

He coasted over the line, sitting up while the other sprinters were still pumping. Cipollini's long hair was hlowing behind him from under his the first stage of the Vuelta a Espana. helmet, and his arms were out-

gesture of victory, like a holy man blessing his flock. "Thank you, boys," he told his Mercatone Uno teammates.

Before the race finished Sunday he recorded two more sprint victories, hut the first was the best. "It was as good as winning the world champion-ship," he said.

Bugno returned from another sort of disaster. Last August, during the world championships in Sicily, the rumor went out that he had failed a drug test. Not drugs exactly but cal-feine, which is prohibited in extraordinary amounts as a stimulant.

Found guilty, Bugno was banned from the sport for two years under rules of the Italian Cycling Federation. On his appeal that the internapollini let it out, attacking with half a tional laws of racing took precedence over national laws, the sentence was reduced to the standard three months.

That was not a whitewash for Bugno, who has long been a man of fragile morale and complex prob-lems. Six years ago, when he was still

he was shouldered into a crowd barri- stretched, palms down, in his familiar a minor rider, he began seeing a psy- deaux. In 1991 and '92 he won the chologist to help resolve his timidity. He also had to overcome severe vertigo, or dizziness and fear of falling when he descended a mountain at high speed. The trouble was laid to a bad crash in the 1988 Giro d'Italia and to a congenital obstruction in the

> As a cure, Bugno underwent ultrasound treatments laced with music, mainly Mozart. "I listened to Mozart at different speeds and degrees of loudness for a month," he reported. After that the vertigo was gone." Soon an allergist found that Bugno

> could not tolerate wheat, milk and

milk products, and changed his diet.

canals of his inner ear.

Retooled, Bugno became a champion, rising to the top of the professionals' computerized rankings. In the 1990 Giro, he won the prologue and kept the leader's pink jer-Tour de France that year, he won sweat from his face, he stood in the

professional road race championship.

The last two years have been lean. however, with only an unexpected victory in the 1994 Tour of Flanders to slow his decline. Everything soured: He lost confidence in his directeur sportif with the Polti team, he was divorced, he moved from Italy to Monaco. The positive drug finding and the two-year han confronted Bugno, at age 31, with the probability that his career was through.

Like Cipollini, the Tour of the Mediterranean was the first race of the season for Bugno. On Saturday, he worked hard to spring a young MG teammate, Davide Rebellin, off and away on the 9-kilometer (5.5mile) Mont Faron climb near Toulon. When Rebellin could not shake a rival, Bugno overtook them both and sey for the rest of the race. In the swept to victory himself. Wiping the both the climbers' hig stage at Alpe sun and said he hoped this victory d'Huez and the sprinters' at Borwould simply be the first.

On Sunday, the sun moved from Provence to Paris and the street market was suddenly full of flowers: crocus, pygmy iris, narcissus, primula in all the colors of the rainbow jersey. Down south it was dark and overcast.

The Tour of the Mediterranean ended in the streets of Marseille with a climb up the Notre Dame de la Garde hill, 550 meters long and a grade of 20 percent. Like the Mont Faron ascent, this was asking a lot of the riders early in the season and few were up to it. Bugno zipped to another easy victory, both the stage and the

Because he wore only the slightest smile, he might have seemed remote, even indifferent, when the television cameras moved in afterward and the questions began. His answers were

As Bugno knows, for weeks to come, a bright sun will be exceptional. Prudence and caution are called for. Down in Provence it felt like spring, but was still winter.

SIDELINES

Westner's 62 Leads Els by 3 Shots

JOHANNESBURG (Reuters) — Wayne Westner, playing his home course, shot a "lucky" 8-under-par 62 Thursday that was a shot off the record for The Wanderers layout and gave him a three-stroke lead after one round of the South African PGA. In second place in the European Tour event was the U.S. Open

Westner got six birdies, plus an eagle 3 at the 13th, to fall one stroke short of the course record set by Fulton Allem of South Africa in 1990. Westner said that "I hit one or two good shots but it wasn't spectacular."

For the Record

The French government said it will recruit jobless people to help local teams reach out to low-income youths in a bid to curb soccerrelated violence such as the recent shooting death of a fan. (AP)

The Genoa-AC Milan replay of the soccer match ended when an Italian fan was killed went without meident, with about 500 police deployed at Genoa's stadium for a small crowd of 22,000. (Reuters)

Lang Ping, who led China's women's volleyhall team to a gold medal in the 1984 Olympics, has quit as the assistant women's coach at the University of New Mexico to coach the Chinese squad for the 1996 Summer Games.

Organizers of Salt Lake City's bid to play host to the 2002 Winter Games said they must raise an additional \$223,000, with most of the money needed to help cover the costs of visits by members of the IOC. (AP)members of the IOC.

In NFL Draft, 2 New Teams Take 2 Tacks

New York Times Service NEW YORK -- The Jacksonville Jaguars began the Na-tional Football League's expansion draft with a flourish, selecting the veteran quarterback Steve Beuerlein with the. first pick. The Jaguars then ended the draft with a hang by selecting five consecutive play-

more in 1995. That group includes a three-some of disappointing firstround draft picks: Washington receiver Desmond Howard, the New York Giants' tight end Derek Brown and New Eng-

ers who will earn \$1 million or

land guard Eugene Chung. In between, Jacksonville and the Carolina Panthers, the other expansion team, selected players who came cheap during the NFL's first expansion draft in

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19 years.
The hig names on the list for the Panthers were Pittshurgh corner back Tim McKyer.
Cleveland receiver Mark Carrier and the New York Jets' hackup quarterback Jack Trudeau. Jacksonville and Carolina

took different tacks. The Panthers, who took 35 players, will pay more than \$9 million on their salaries but, picked mainly younger players and left themselves more money to work with during the free agency period, which begins

Carrier was the only player they selected who will make \$1 million next season.

The Jaguars, by contrast, took 31 players and spent a hit more than \$15 million in selecting Beuerlein, who will earn \$2 million in 1995; Brown; Howard; Chung; New Orleans linehacker James Williams, and Green Bay running back Reggie Cobh, who will make about \$1 million each next season. Those six players will account for nearly half of the \$15 million.

Opens With a Chill Factor Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches FORT LAUDERDALE, Florida — Major league hase-ball began its annual rites of spring Thursday without big

Baseball Spring Training

league stars, and only a handful of fans showed up to watch minor leaguers and replacement players work out. The Yankees were the only team to bold an official workout on the first day, and fewer than 70 spectators showed for the start of the workouts at traditionally bustling Fort Lauderdale Stadium to watch pitchers and catchers put through their paces. Admission was free.
"It's kind of like Christmas without the Christmas

presents." said a minor league pitcher, Mike deJean. In Washington, the owners and players put in another full day Wednesday as a Senate subcommittee heard renewed arguments as to whether basehall should retain its antitrust exemption. But even as the four-hour hearing unfolded, two things seemed evident.

First, the subcommittee on antitrust, monopolies and husiness seemed not at all close to sending to the full Senate two hills designed to partly roll back the 73-yearold exemption so coveted by club owners and so vilified by striking players.

The second theme - and one offered with much more enthusiasm by senator after senator — was a groundswell of hipartisan anger toward both sides in the strike. (AP, NYT)



Yankee replacement pitchers Rich Polak (left) and Keith Seilor, getting sort of acquainted.

SCOREBOARD

NBA Standings EASTERN CONFERENCE ona 25 (Jackson, R. Miller 4).

Woshington 20 24 24 22—72

Chicago 33 28 24 22—127

W: Webber 10-18 6-0 22, Howard 6-14 6-10 22; WESTERN CONFERENCE

Borros 3-10 4-4 22, Burton 4-13 4-6 21, Re-bounds—Minnesoto 32 (Marsholl 11), Philo-delohia 64 (Williams 12). Assists—Minnesoto 23 (Loettner 8), Philodelphia 26 (Barros, Checking 9-14 3-3 31, Spread 11-21 3-7 28, Rébounds—Boston 52 (Mantross 8), Golden 23 (Loettner 8), Philodelphia 26 (Barros, (Douglas 14), Golden State 36 (Hardonwoy 16). u n n n - n Top 25 College Results

0: O'Neal 9-17 8-14 24, Scatt 6-12 3-4 19: C: Brandon 12-15 5-5 31, Ferry 6-7 0-6 13, Re-bounds—Orlanda 50 (Anderson, O'Neal FI, Cleveland 22 (HIII 17), Assists—Orlando 24 Defroit 21 22 22 12-88 Indiana 25 34 27 28-114 Dr. Mills 8-19 3-3 20, Dumors 7-13 8-9 25; 1; Smills 7-11 4-4 20, R. Aulier 10-15 9-9 31, Rebounds—Defroit 35 (Hill 10), Indiana 53 (O. Davis 8), Assista—Defroit 14 (Mozon 4), Indiana 25 (Defroit 24 (Mozon 4), Indiana 25 (Defroit 25 (Mills 8), Assista—Defroit 14 (Mozon 4), Indiana 25 (Defroit 25 (Mills 8), Assista—Defroit 26 (Mozon 4), Indiana 25 (Mills 8), Assista—Defroit 26 (Mills 8), Assista—Defroit 26 (Mills 8), Indiana 27 (Mills 8), Assista—Defroit 27 (Mills 8), Indiana 2

C: Ptopen 4-17 4-7 24. Kukoc 7-14 4-10 22 Re-bounds—Washinston 46 (Webber 91, Chicago 53 (Kukoc 12), Assists—Washinston 31 (Skiles

9), Cricogo 22 (Arristrolog 7),
Portiend 22 29 31 13 9—113
Phoenix 26 32 22 34 14—128
P: C. Rebinson 8-18-3-421, J. Rebinson 8-18-13 23, Strictional 10-25-94 2s; P: Barkley 12-25
11-14 33, Green 6-11 10-11 22, Rebounds—Porland 69 (Dodley 17), Phoenix 56 (Borkley 14),
Assists—Portland 33 (Strickland 18), Phoenix

25 (Ferry 8).

Seattle 34 21 17 34— 56

L.A. Lekers 22 46 28 15—182

S: Kempé-184-1820, Parten 9-22-5-424; L.A.:
Jones 6-13 1-5 19, von Exel 5-10 6-7 19.rebounds—Seattle 61 (Kerro 12), Los Angeles 57

IDivot 11). Assists—Seattle 24 (Gill 7), Los
Angeles 27 (Vivo Exel 9)

Forest (16-5,7-4) 63-54. Next; vs. Cincinnat) at Sam Antonia, Sunday; B. Michigan State (18-3, 10-2) beat (11)nois (16-8,7-5) 68-58. Next: at No. 24 Minnesolo, Saturdov; 19, Arlamass (25-5, 8-4) best No. 18 Alabamo (17-6, 7-4) 6-60, Next; vs. Affashalpol, Saturdov; 16, Versite (17-6, 7-4) best Duke (11-13, 1-11) 64-58, Next; vs. Ne. 3 North Carolina, Sundov: 17, Stanford (16-5, 7-5) beat California (12-9, 4-6) 83-70, Next: vs.

51 bcdl Coffornia (13-9, 4-8) 83-70, Next: vs. No. 6 UCLA, Tuesdoy.
28, Georgia: Tech (16-8) boot North Corolloc A&T (10-12) 85-81, Next: vs. No. 14 Woke Forest, Schurdoy: 21, Ioena State (18-7, 4-4) tool to No. 22 Oktoborna State (17-7, 7-2) 71-69, Next: michigan State, Sofurday: 25, Puntee (17-6, 8-3) boat Penn State (13-6, 5-7) 71-51, Next: vs. Northwestern, Saturday. 4) lost to lowe (15-7, 5-7) 74-70. Next: vs. No. 8 Michigan State, Saturday: 25. Purdan (17-4 E.

Other Major Coilege Scores

Auburn 80. South Carolina 78
Fiorida 78, Tennessee 45
Georgio T. Tennessee 45
James Madison 92, East Carolina 87
McNesse St. 81. Southern U. 78
Mississippi 102, LSU 90
N. Carolina St. 86. Florida 51. 77
Tennes-Pen American 74. SW Louisimo

Teras-Pon American 74, SW Lauisiana 62 VMI 84, Lynchburg 66 Ball St. 84 Cenf. Michigan St

Mami, Ohio 61, W. Michigan 47 SOUTHWEST

Orul Roberts 81, 5W Textus St. 45
Rice 75, Textus A&M 6P
Textus 91, Southern Meth. 65
Textus Tech 98, Houston 72
FAR WEST
Fregue St. 87, CS Northridge 56
General 74, Recition 18 Ganzasia 74, Portland 59 Long Beach St. 75, UC Sonta Barbara 63

DUTCH FIRST DIVISION ord Reference 2. SC Hecremonde Engchede 1. NEC Nilmes

RKCWoolwilk 2.Go Aheed Fooles D PSV Eindhoven 4 Soorta Retterdem 0 Vitesse Arnhem 2 Dondrecht?0 D Alox Amsterdom 1, Roda JC Kerkrode 1 NAC Bredo 4, FC Utrecht 8 MAC Brego & FL WILLIAM MAC Brego & FL Gruningen ENGLISH LEAGUE CUP

Semifinal, First Leg
Liverpool 1, Crystal Poloce 0
FTALIAN LEAGUE CUP
Genoo 1, AC Milon 1
SPANISH CUP
Third Round, Second Leg
Real Berls 1, Athlytic Billion 0
(Athlytic and All on responsable) etic win 41 on passregate) rect Manaras 2. Toreas ((Real Malarca win 3-1 on agaregate) Rayo Vallecano 1. Palamas 1 (Rayo Vallecano win 2-1 on agaregate) Rayo Zaropara 1. Abbacete 1 (Albacate win 3-2 on agaregate)

NHL Standings

Montreal 0 1 0-1
Hartford 1 3 3-4
First Period: H-Sanderson 4 (Kucera, Rosshetm): Second Period: H-Sanderson 5 (Ku-

ond Period: None; Take Period: N.Y. Nooson 3 (Leetch, Motteau); N.Y.-Larmer 6 (Nemchinov, Lowe): Starts on good: N.Y. 10-9-12-31. B 13-7-6-26. Gooffes: N.Y., Richler, B.

First Period: N.J.-Corpuster 2 (Richer); I.J.-McKey 2 (Holik, Niedormayer) | W-Poy-

N.J.-Richer & (Niedermayer, MacLeon (; (pp). W-Pivonko 1 (Konovalchuk, Cofe); (sh); Third Paridi N.J.-Richer 7 (Roiston, Abelin); Shetsongool: W7-4-11—22.N.J. 7-12 9—27. Goolles: W. Dofoe. N.J. Brodour. First Period: E-Arnott 4 (Weight); Sec

List Appeles

Dellos

First Period: L.A.-Druce5 (Todd, Loards.);

D-Riott 6 (Kennedy, Gobner); (pp); Secand
Period: L.A.-Grandte 4 (Toochet, Sydor);
Third Period: L.A.-Conscher 1 (Todd); (en);

Shots an Invest 4

Shets an Unal: L.A. 11-12-9-32 D 15-14-72-43.

ress Périod; D-Primeou 3 (Ciccarelli, Ken-stontitrov); Socued Pariod; W-Zhomnev 6, D-Bort 3 (Primeos, Ciccarelli); Talad Period; D-Fedorov 18 (Colfey); D-Brown 4 (Kodov, Fedorov); D-Primeou 4 (Romsey); Shots on godi; D 184-18—29, W 7-16-7—30, Goelles; D, Depood, W, Khatalbulin.

First Period: S.J.-Whitney 5 (Rathle, Ma-karav); (pp), S.J.-Larianov 1 (Makarav, Oza-linsh); Second Period: S.J.-Makarav 4 (Nor-

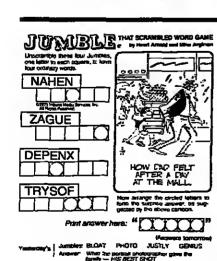
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BASKETBALL

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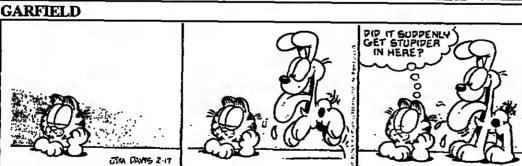
"BUT DAD - I WAS JUST SCRATCHING MY NOSE."



Education Directory Every Tuesday Contact Kimberly Guerrand-Betrancourt Tel.: (33 1) 46 37 94 76 Fax: (33 1) 46 37 93 70

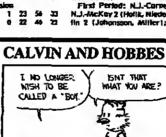
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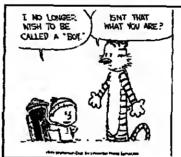
















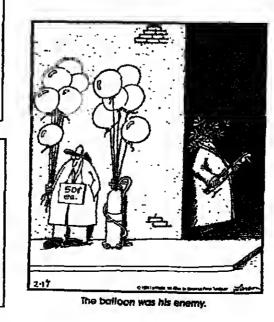
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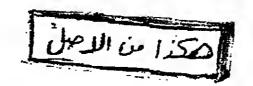
THE FAR SIDE



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Herald Eribune **SPORTS**

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1995

PAGE 19

England's Likely to Keep Championships, but Soccer's Losing a War

ONDON - England apparently will be allowed L to keep the European Championships in 1996, which implies the escalation of a certain kind of war. It was declared by the English hooligans who injured more than 50 people Wednesday night in Dublin, who ripped benches out of the stands and rained them onto those sitting below to rain the England-lreland friendly after 27 minutes.

Their declaration is an end to itself. Their actions don't bear logie; so, as satisfying as it feels to call them "idiots"

lan "morons," that Thomsen kind of response is

probably even more satisfying to them. It's all about provoking a response. They love a fight more than anything, and names will never burt them.

The disaster arose from the visitors' upper tier of the West Stand at Lansdowne Road minutes after Ireland had struck a 1-0 lead, and the first reaction was to retreat. The Dutch referee, Denis Jol, called off the match, while horrified commentators quiekly considered whether England was deserving or capable of hosting the European Championships next year. The referee's decision shouldn't be debated: One

the sake of putting a brave face on a sport whose own apparent breakdowns in organization helped tofoster the worst behavior in the worst people.

Expect to be safe watching matches in the presence of people like those who were here tonight?"

There's often no reasoning with people in power.

world's second-higgest soccer tournament was it's true that those who celebrated the stoppage of an quashed, typically, by Joso Havelange, president of England match for the first ome — another sad fiff, the international soccer federation. The decimilestone — cannot really be fans of the game. It's sion actually belongs to UEFA, the European federation, which is awaiting reports from the English and Irish football associations.

"England does not deserve, because of a localized problem, to have a sporting right withdrawn," Have-lange said Thursday from Zurich. He appeared almost angry that he had to deal with such questions. "FIFA only deals with the field," he said. "I don't have the wherewithal to go down to the stadium and check all these people. If it happens on the pitch then it's football's problem."

So doubts haven't been resurrected that England can provide safe haven for the game and all of its

"On the U.K. front, the answer is negative," Havelange said. "Everything can be handled." Just like that.

The Irish sports minister, Bernard Allen, won't be appeased so easily. He asked, "How can people from more innocent person should oot have been hurt for Ireland and from other couotries go to Englaod and

The valid question of England's ability to host the Their sensibilities tend to be self-serving. Of course milestone — cannot really be fans of the game. It's just as true that they attend matches because of all the popularity from which the game profits: for the large and emotional crowds, easily swayed; for the confrontation with the foreign cultures they regard as enemy; for the stage they can occasionally steal from the world's athletic celebrities; for the instantaneous media exposure. All of this allows a few hundred vobs to blemish the face of a nation. (Just as true, they represent a mood within their

> If there were any other stage better suited to their cries, they would ditch soccer in a moment. They were at Lansdowne Road just as surely as Havelange sees himself as some sort of global emperor.

> There would be more reason to believe in the game's best traits if its leader said be was going to do erything he could to set a good example. O'oviously, setting a good example is the game's only resort beyond the last-ditch measures of security in the

Everyone worries about the innocent victims, in-

jured for supporting the game that profits from them. But it is hard to feel sympathy for the insultuoon of English soccer in these days when its own player - probably its best player - attacks and attempts to injure the very people who reward his ability. The men who run the game value Eric Cantona's talent above all else. By insinuation they question the motives of the supporter and, more openly, the TV reporter who "provoked" him. They sympathize with Cantona and support him through this difficult time, and in so doing they loosen the standards for what should be acceptable behavior.

ANTONA'S recent outbursts did not create the environment of Wednesday night. Rather, his violent actions were borne from that environment. Last week, 11 police officers were injured in the club riot at the Chelsea ground in London. Cantona did not cause these problems. The problem is the frazzled message sent by soccer's understanding and support for someone like him.

The captain of England's national team, David Platt, tried to reason with his supporters in Duhlin, hut they responded by throwing a bench at him. "Just two weeks ago English football was being held up as an example to the Italians on how to curh violence," said Platt, who plays for Sampdoria. "I now have to go back to lialy and face the same journalists who wrote that."

So long as the English are going to be competing in Euro '96, the best option is probably that they play in England, where police have been educated and stadiums have been renovated in response to the tragedies of the 1980s.

Warnings of English violence were met by a huge show of security in Duhlin, in light of the British-Irish negotiations over Northern Ireland: but it seems now that ancient Lansdowne Road was suited for the riot, with its narrow aisles preventing the police from overwhelming the English supporters. The English are not required to show their passports when entering Ireland, but officials on both sides are asking how 4,000 English were in the stadium when only 2,000 tickets bad reportedly been made available to them. There was reportedly little separation

between the host and visiting supporters.

"No surrender to the IRA," the English were chanting. Some were said to be members of the extremist National Front; some were giving Nazi salutes. It is said that the most effective English hooligans are now approaching middle age, which means they know all the tricks.

They have put the pressure on England to police itself against itself once more. If real fans were wondering which team will win the 1996 championship, they will now be worrying more about their own safety. But that's not João Havelange's problem.

FA Asks Fans To Turn In The 'Thugs'

LONDON - "True fans" were urged Thursday by England's Football Association to help identify those responsible for Wednesday night's trouble.

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We are making a major effort to identify those at the heart of the trouble," said David Davies, the FA's director of public affairs. "Many of them were recognizable from newspaper photographs or televisioo

The FA has set up a special free phoneline, Davies said, and added: "We urge true football supporters to ring if they can

belp.
"We will be asking every club
this weekinvolved in matches this weekend to repeat this appeal and we trust the Irish law will be used to its limits to punish those involved last night.

"We will do everything in our powers to banish those who disgraced themselves and the nation they purport to represent."

Prime Minister John Major, in a letter to Prime Minister John Bruton of Ireland, apolo-gized for the "inexcusable and thuggish" behavior by the English at the match.

"They were a disgrace and an embarrassment," wrote Major, himself a keen soccer fan.

Paris Open.

ACROSS

1 Finance

10 Trick

The Associated Press

match of her comeback from injuries, defeated 14-year-old prodigy Martina

Hingis in a quarterfinal Thursday at the

Although Graf won, 6-2, 6-3, and in 61 minutes, the young Czech player, who lives in Switzerland, was tougher than

the score indicated in her first match

Graf controlled the pace, hitting fore-

hand winners at key points. However, Hingis was able stay in the match by

taking advantage of Graf's weaker back-

18 Drench, with

"down"
16 Patron saint of
Norway
17 Mississippi

against the German star.

PARIS - Steffi Graf, in the second



hand and occasionally hitting winners of ing one by Graf to go ahead by 5-3.

service winner.

tournament



The pain, the rage: An injured spectator (left) at the match in Dublin was treated on the field as, in the stands, police wrestled with a member of the English contingent. Police said they had arrested about 40 people from England and three from Ireland, and 40 people had been treated at a hospital for injuries, one a fractured skull. An Irish man in his 60s died of a heart attack while leaving the stadium, although this was not thought to be related to the violence, police said.

Sydney 95 Deals Blow to French Hopes Law, Coxon drove the boat in ern Australia, when he was the Beashel took over the wheel

Agence France-Presse

SAN DIEGO - Sydney 95, with a new headsail, a modified keel and its third helmsman in as many rounds, opened the ca's Cup challenger trials with a 38-second victory that considerably boosted its prospects but sent France 3 staggering into next-to-last place.

In another upset, America3, with its all-women crew still sailing Bill Koch's 1992 Cupdefending boat, outsailed Dennis Conner's Stars & Stripes by 1 minute, 26 secoods Wednesday. All three of the women's victories have come in the first race of a defense round.

With ideal winds of 8 to 12 knots, Team New Zealand sailed its Black Magic - unbeaten in 13 races except by a protest - to a steady, 1:16 triumph over Nippon while NZL 39 had no trouble disposing of winless Rioja de España by

Sydney 95 had been given up on as a contender earlier, but its owner, Syd Fischer, brought Cnp veteran Colin Beashel aboard to drive his boat this round. Match racing expert Neville Wittey returned to steer and call tactics, which allowed Michael Coxon to return to coordinating sails, much to his relief. After Fischer fired Chris the second round.

It was only Sydney 95's fourth victory in 13 races, but with points escalating to four per victory in the third round, the boat is in fifth place, only two points out of the critical fourth berth in the semifinals starting March 18. The two New Zealand entries are first bleak. Their cause had been adand second, followed by on-

eAustralia and Nippon. Fischer contacted Beashel on his recent trip home to Sydney

and persuaded him to join the Class boat only once before, in 39. practice earlier this week. His in 1986-87 off Fremantle, West-day.

skipper for Alan Bond's Aus- from Wittey after the boats split tralia IV. It lost in the defender final to Jain Murray's Kookaburra III.

These are a lot more maneuverable than 12-Meters, with a lot more horsepower," Beashel French prospects appeared

vanced little with the introduction of France 3, their second "In breeze like today's, this oew boat, io the previous boat comes alive," Beashel said. round, and its skipper, Marc Pajot, said, "It's a race we couldn't afford to lose."

His next three are against team. Beashel had sailed on an Team New Zealand, oneAus-International America's Cup tralia and Chris Dickson's NZL

The Sydney 95-France 3 last America's Cup action was match was the closest of the

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at the start. France enjoyed a small early advantage, which it squandered by overstanding the port layline to the first mark. When the wind shifted slightly left, Beashel was lifted around the mark, side-by-side with France 3 but in the inside posi-

"We misjudged our approach," Pajot said. When France 3's spinnaker

tore a few minutes later, the Australians moved ahead to lead by 15 seconds at the leeward mark and stretched that to 54 seconds with a strong upwind leg to gain control of the

Like Sydney 95, America3 performs better in a breeze. But Stars & Stripes, with Paul Cayard steering the start and first leg, got off the line eight seconds behind in what Cayard called his "bonehead start" and never caught up.

He put the women to the test by forcing 41 tacks on the first beat, hoping to grind them down. It didn't work, partly because of a temporary winch problem oo Stars & Stripes and partly because of the women's improving performance.

The question of whether women are strong enough is no longer an issue," said Stephanie Pierson, the mainsail grinder.

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Graf Given a Fight, but Defeats Young Hingis

Graf took the first set, which she

opened with an ace, in 26 minutes. The

only time she was in trouble was in the

first game, when two double faults gave

Hingis a break point. But two forehand

winners and an ace erased that and gave

broke serve to go ahead, 1-0, in the second set with the help of two consecu-

tive backhand errors by Graf. But Graf

Still, each game was a struggle. There were several more service breaks, includ-

CROSSWORD

broke right back to even it at 1-1.

Hingis stiffened her defense and even

her own.

Graf the game.

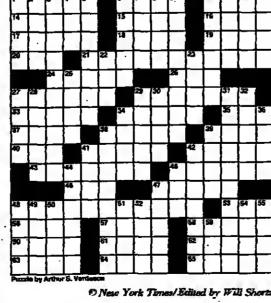
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Serving for the match, she took the final

two points with her eighth ace and a

Halard of France, in the secood round.

call injuries, has played just four matches since losing to Arantxa Sanchez Vi-

cario in the U.S. Open in September —

two in the year-ending Virginia Slims tournament in November and two in this

Sanchez Vicario but could gain it back

with a victory in this tournament.

She has lost her No. 1 ranking to

Hingis beat last year's finalist, Julie

Graf, because of recurring back and



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INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFIED (Continued From Page 4)

Old Track Record Falls, Belatedly

ERFURT, Germany — Lyubov Kremlova of Russia has broken one of the oldest indoor world records by clocking 2

Kremlova set the record at a meet her in eastern Germany

At the same meet in Erfurt, Sun Caiyun of China set her

fifth indoor pole vault record in less than three weeks by clearing 4.15 meters (13 feet, 7¼ inches).

on Wednesday night, but the organizers were not aware until Thursday that she had broken the mark of of 2:34.8 that was

minutes, 34.18 seconds over 1.000 meters.

set by Brigitte Kraus of Germany in 1978.

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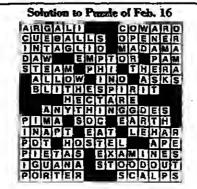
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Ghosts in Gloucester

By Ralph Blumenthal

NEW YORK — Now you see them, now you don't Anyway you look at it, there are two extra sailboats and some flying sea gulls in a Winslow Homer watercolor that weren't there when the American master painted it in 1880.

The ghostly additions materialized sometime after the painting, "Off Gloucester Harbor," was stolen in 1969 and before it reappeared in 1992. Thereby hangs a bittersweet tale, one that ended with the return of the defaced painting to its owner more than a quarter-century after its theft hut with a central mystery still unsolved.

They're not dead sure it can ever be restored," said Sophia L. Truslow, the lawyer for the owner, Ellen Jennings of 1ps-wich, Massachusetts, Insurance companies, she said, won't touch the painting. "It's not a Homer," she said. "It's a Homer and Joe Blow."

As told in federal court papers and interviews with Robert Van Etten, the U.S. Customs Service agent in charge in New York, the work, which had been valued at about \$125,000, was one of four Homer works two watercolors and two draw-- that were stolen from the home of Jennings and her late husband on Jan. 16, 1969.

The painting is of two boys in a rowboat on calm water looking at a schooner passing in the

distance to the right. In March 1992, court records say, Peter Juvelis, an art hroker from Mexico and Fort Lauderdale, Florida, consigned for sale hy Christie's in New York a Homer watercolor for a client, Georgina Maldonado

When Christie's asked about the history of the picture's ownership, Juvelis "stated he had

no bill of sale because his client received the watercolor as a gift from a Mexican official," a cus-

toms agent, Bonnie Goldblatt, said in sworn statements. When Christie's sought authentification from a Homer expert, whom the authorities

sought to keep anonymous, she identified it as the long-missing Gloucester Harbor scene. She also noticed the addition of two smaller sailboats on the left and sea gulls in the sky, apparently to disguise the work as a painting other than the one that had been stolen.

The expert then recalled, Goldblatt's affidavits said, that two years earlier she had authenticated a Homer drawing consigned by the same Juvelis.

This drawing — "Boy Sitting on a Stump," from 1879 — was also one of the Homers stolen from the Jennings home, hut hy oversight it had not been registered as missing. In that case, the court papers said, the sale went through unnoticed, at a price of \$54,000.

When Customs Service agents interviewed Juvelis about the drawing in 1992, he again named the owner as Maldonado, who, he said, had received it from friends 20 years

before, the affidavits stated. Further investigation showed that Juvelis was married to Maldonado, Goldhlatt said.

Furthermore, the agent testified, when the Customs Service asked for the commercial form documenting the importation of the Homer painting from Mexico, as required for sale transactions, Juvelis said there was none because a friend had carried it in for him.

Michael I. Rose, a lawyer for Juvelis, said his client had been "duped" into huying the stolen works from an art dealer in Ips-wich who died years ago.

Russell Baker is on vacation.

William Christie's Magic Resurrection Act

PARIS — Once again, the hottest ticket in town is for a musicaltheatrical entertainment first performed more than three centuries ago

and since then mostly left for dead. The phenomenon is similar to the astonishingly successful resurrection eight years ago of an opera, "Atys," from the supposedly morihund reper-lory of the founder of French opera, Jean-Baptiste Lully, William Christie, the conductor and prime mover of that revival, is back at work, this time

in behalf of Britain's great Baroque composer Henry Purcell.

"King Arthur," or "The British Worthy," identified as "a dramatick opera," is a collaboration by Purcell and John Dryden. Dryden, defrocked as poet laureate because, as a Roman Collaboration by Purcell and John Dryden. Catholic, he did not fit in with the Protestant regime of William and Mary, nonetheless rejigged the text and political agenda of a play he had written in allegorical homage to Charles II. Purcell contributed the music, and "King Arthur" was a popular success in 1691 in London's Dorset Gordon set Garden.

The return of theater under the Restoration did not include English acquiescence in fully sung opera, and "King Arthur" is a "semi-opera," a kind of 17th-century musical in which the main plot is moved along by Dryden's rich and vigorous language, while music is called on to generate the fantastic elements.

Christie successfully revived another of Purcell's semi-operas, "The Fairy Queen," at the festival in Aix-en-Provence, and "King Arthur" seemed like a good bet for the 300th anniversary of Purcell's too-early death at age 36.

"This is a response to some very smng comments by British and Amer-ican scholars that the form is dead and unfit for revival," Christie said cheerfully during a break in rehearsals.

"Why can't words and music co-hahit?" he asked. "They do --- in American musical comedy and in the movie musicals of the '40s and '50s." In the case of "King Arthur," the division of speech, music and dance



Christie has made a specialty of a long-vanished repertory.

Pas de le Casa Soldeu

requires the services of actors, singers and dancers, with only two roles - an Air Spirit and an Earth Spirit - call-

ing for both singing and speaking. The story tells of the political-military confrontation of Arthur, Christian king of the Britous, and Oswald, the pagan and Saxon king of Kent, and of their amorous competition for Emmeline. Each king has his own magician, Merlin, who restores the sight of the blind Emmeline and overcomes the evil spells of the lascivious Osmond, and there are myriad other

on the stage of the Theatre du Châ-telet, Graham Vick and his mostly British team have staged a marvelous-ly imaginative show, Paul Brown's sets and costumes are as richly colored as a child's picture book, modern in means hut with a Baroque sense of spectacle. Dryden's rich verse is handsomely spoken by a cast of British tion as the composer."

actors, and the stylized acting and extravagant costumes give the impres-sion Kabuki was an English invention.

The Baroque theater of machines is cleverly evoked. The opposing kings slide on and off from the wings astride their horses. Various spirits descend from the flies or disappear through traps. Trees and flowers pop up from the floor and a field of ice is transmogrified into a field of sunflowers. Singers and dancers are subtly blended, in Ron Howell's choreography, so that they seem to be a chorus of singing dancers, or dancing singers.

The final act is a grand apotheosis to the future greatness of Britain. The isles rise oot of the sea, complete with white cliffs and grassy meadows, shepherds and farmers; Venus arrives the property of the "Friedly Itle" and to sing praise of the "Fairest Isle," and there is a parade of British icons—a London bohhy, a coal miner, a guardsman, an RAF pilot. After all this, who needs European Union?

The music of "King Arthur" has lived on mainly in concerts without the story or in severely truncated stage the story or in severely truncated stage versions. The production at the Châtelet, where the eight performances were sold out before they opened, is probably the most complete in about 300 years. The production goes to Caen, Christie's Norman outpost, in March, and will have three performances at London's Covent Garden in May.

For Christie, 50, this is another triumphant step in a career devoted mainly to "bringing a repertory, among the best in the world, back into focus and proving that it has something to say to a contemporary audience." His place in the French musical landscape is suggested by his sharing, with Pierre Bou-lez, the inaugural program of the new Cité de la Musique. The Arts Floris-sants ensemble he founded in 1979 has about 100 singers and instrumentalists expert in a repertory ranging from Monteverdi madrigals to Baroque opera to — a challenge coming later this year — Beethoven's "Missa Solemnis."

He admits, too, that he has his eye on Mozart's operas, having already conducted "The Magic Flute" at Aix. But he adds that "we are approaching Mozart from the right side - going through the process in the same direc-

PEOPLE

Saint Laurent Drops Its 'Champagne' Name

The Yves Saint Laurent per-fume called "Champagne," launched in 1993, will change its name worldwide by 1998. The name was withdrawn in France and Switzerland after winegrowers charged that YSL winegrowers charged that YSL had no right to the name of the famous wine. Under an agreement reached by Sanofi/Yves Saint Laurent, the French Institut National des Appellations d'Origine, and Champagne winegrowers, the label will be withdrawn in Germany in October and phased out everytober and phased out everywhere over three years. In France, the perfume has already been renamed "Ronge a Lèvres" (Lipstick).

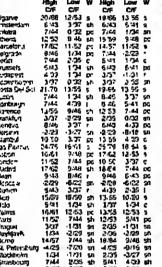
Hona Staller, better known as Italy's former porn star Cicciolina, won provisional custody of her 2-year-old son, Ludwig Maximilian. A Rome appeals court threw out a request for custody by her former husband. the American artist Jeff Koons, who had the backing of a New York judge's ruling. A final decision is expected later.

Two nieces of Rudolf: Nurayer are contesting the sale of two apartments by the dancer shortly before his death in 1993. Rosa and Gouzel Nureyev are challenging the validity of the sale of the apartments and their contents to one of the foundations Nureyev created.

After criticism of its smubbing of the acclaimed documentary film, "Hoop Dreams," the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences has agreed to review how documentaries are nominated for Oscars, Arthur Hiller, the academy president, said. "Hoop Dreams" was not among the nominees in the documentary feature category, al-though it collected some of the best reviews for any movie last

WEATHER

Forecast for Saturday through Monday, as provided by Accu-Weather.



North America

Europe
A stormy pettern will prevail with one storm spreading rain from southern Italy to Turkey and snow from Austria to Czechoslowakia. Another storm will bring wind and rain from the U K. to Deomark and snow to southern Scandinavas. Spon and southern France will have dry weather.

Asia
Cold winds and snow will allect northem Japan over the weekend Southern Southern Will be weather with a cool and the cold weather will be heavy. Singapore will be weath and framid. Middle East Africa

Latin America

WEEKEND SKI REPORT

Fair Open Hwy 11/2 Resort 90% open, spring sking Fair OpenSpring 11/2 Most litts open, top runs good

Var. 14-2. All 41 lets open, some icy patiches Hyr. 16-2. All 41 lets open new snow Wet. 16-2. All 22 lets open heavy conditions Var. 14-2. 21-22 lets open excellent sking Var. 14-2. All 35 lets open, generally good

Var. 15.2. 75. 82 alls open tresh answ.
Var. 16.2. 71. 79 tits open, snowing.
I thy 15.2. 40. 41 tits open, wet sking.
I thy 15.2. 50. 68 tits open, wet sking.
I thy 15.2. 50.63 tits open, wet sking.
I thy 15.2. 50.63 tits open, wet sking.
I thy 15.2. 50.63 tits open, good sking.
I thy 15.2. 39 41 tits open, mostly wet snow.
I wet 15.2. All 50 tits and ell 76 prates open.
I thy 15.2. Some lats on weather-hold.
I thy 15.2. 50.72 tits open lovely sking.
I thy 15.2. Lits of enuade closed by stom.
Var. 15.2. 47. 49 tits open, resort runs tearly.
Var. 15.2. All 29 tits open, pistes are good.

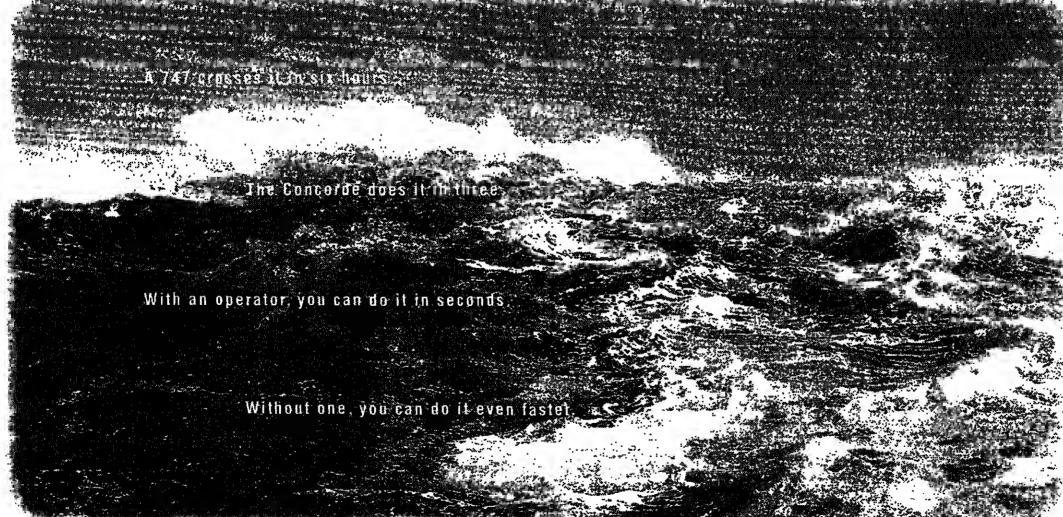
100 100 Good Open Pwdr 15/2 All 18 litts open, great sking

Baquelra Beret 75 105 Feir Open Spring 11/2 All litts open, spring conditions

Hvy 14/2 All 16 lifts open bare patches
Var 15/2 Lifts pood above 1800m
Var 16/2 All 36 kits open, F3km of x-country
hvy 14/2 All 29 kits open, some powder
Var 14/2 54/60 lifts open, lovely upper runs
hvy 14/2 All 39 lifts open, lovely upper runs
hvy 14/2 All 39 lifts open, lovely upper runs
hvy 14/2 All 39 lifts open, lovely upper runs
vet
hvy 14/2 All 39 lifts open, lovely upper god
Var 14/2 72/73 lifts open, excellent siding

U.S. Aspen Breckentidge 205 210 Pwdr Open Pwdr 16/2 All 8 litts open, masses of powder 175 215 Pwdr Open Pwdr 16/2 16/17 litts open, deep powder 300 525 Pwdr Open Pwdr 15/2 25/30 litts open, excellent sking 16/1 65 Good Open Pwdr 16/2 All 20 litts open, good sking 17/10 180 Pwdr Open Pwdr 16/2 All 10 litts open, plenty of powder

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